

U.S. monitoring Iraqi arms ship

LONDON (R) — The U.S. navy is closely monitoring an Iraqi freighter loaded with arms in the Mediterranean, a British government source said Wednesday. "It is being very closely watched by the Americans," he said. A U.S. television carrier reported Monday that warships accompanying the U.S. aircraft carrier Eisenhower may stop and board an Iraqi freighter loaded for Aquaba via the Suez Canal. NBC News said the vessel was loaded with small arms and ammunition bought in Poland. The United States and Britain have ordered their warships to intercept and board any vessel trying to break a U.N. trade embargo against Iraq over its Aug. 2 takeover of Kuwait. Britain was deployed a destroyer and two frigates in the Gulf with what the government source said were orders allowing them to use force against sanction-busting ships. "Any merchant marine captain who disobeyed an order to stop would get a nasty surprise," he said. But the source said: "There are no suspect ships around (in the Gulf) which demonstrate the effectiveness of the embargo so far."

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة العربية للدراسية والاراء

Volume 15 Number 4469

AMMAN THURSDAY, AUGUST 16, 1990, MUHARRAM 25, 1411

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams

SPECIAL EDITION

In view of the situation in the Gulf region, the Jordan Times will publish a special edition on Friday for the third consecutive week.

Lawzi urges Iran to accept Iraqi offer

AMMAN (R) — The Jordanian Parliament urged Iran Wednesday to accept Iraqi President Saddam Hussein's peace proposal. "We urge you and the Iranian people to welcome this initiative because by returning relations between the two states to normal you can confront the challenges facing the Arab and Muslim nation," Upper House Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi said in a cable to Iranian leader Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani. In a separate cable to Saddam, Lawzi said: "We hope this plan will be the cornerstone in normalising the historic ties between the two countries which are facing evil and danger from potential foreign intervention."

Air force plane crashes, pilot killed

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Royal Jordanian Air Force plane crashed and its pilot was killed on a routine training flight, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said Wednesday. The agency, quoting an official of the Armed Forces, said the crash Tuesday was caused by a technical failure. It did not say where it took place. It identified the pilot as Hussein Abdul Salam Sulaiman Al Khattib.

Stewardesses in Kuwait 'not raped'

LONDON (AP) — Two British stewardesses reported to have been raped by Iraqi soldiers in Kuwait told British diplomats they had not been attacked and were safe and well, the Foreign Office said Wednesday. It launched an investigation after Nawal Bel Hadj, a Tunisian stewardess for Kuwait Airways, said she saw the two British stewardesses and three other foreign women brutally attacked in the hotel where they were staying in Kuwait City. British diplomats spoke to the stewardesses, who were not identified, and had informed their families here that they were not harmed, the Foreign Office said. "They told us they had not been raped or assaulted and that they are safe and well," said a Foreign Office spokesman.

Qadhafi calls for U.N. meeting

NICOSIA (R) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi has called for a Security Council meeting to discuss the buildup of foreign forces in the Gulf. The Libyan news agency JANA Wednesday quoted him as saying any foreign forces in the region not under the flag and command of the U.N. "are regarded as troops of colonialist invasion and should be resisted."

Bangladesh to join Gulf forces

DHAKA (AP) — Bangladeshi troops will join multinational forces in Saudi Arabia, to defend the kingdom, officials said Wednesday. A Foreign Office official said the decision to send a token military contingent to Saudi Arabia was taken by President Hussain Mohammad Ershad after a meeting with Sheikh Abdul Aziz Al Thumian, a special envoy of Saudi King Fahd.

Egypt bars Iraqi ship from Suez

CAIRO (AP) — The Suez Canal Authority has refused passage of an Iraqi ship carrying food because it would not pay \$12,000 in transit fees, the Middle East News Agency (MENA) said Wednesday. An officer at the authority's Port Said office confirmed the "Zein Al Qaws" had been denied passage because it refused to pay its transit fees but would give no further details. MENA said that both the Iraqi ship and its agent in Port Said refused to pay the transit fees.

Saddam makes peace with Iran

Combined agency dispatches

IRAQI PRESIDENT Saddam Hussein Wednesday made peace with Iran, ending a bitter protracted conflict and freeing Iraq's one-million-strong army and Iran predicted a new era of "lasting and just peace."

In a dramatic offer, Saddam Hussein agreed to all Iranian conditions for a Gulf war peace treaty in a message he sent to Iranian President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani.

"Dear Brother — Rafsanjani... everything you wanted... has been realized," said the message carried by Iraqi media.

Saddam said he would start pulling troops out of Iran Friday, enabling him to consolidate Iraq's forces to "confront evildoers" — the Western and Arab armies building up in the Gulf in response to his takeover of Kuwait.

The offer was also seen as a way Baghdad could open a lifeline for vital commodities

through Iran as U.N. sanctions began to bite.

On the streets of Tehran, residents welcomed the news but without the spontaneous celebrations which erupted following Iran's acceptance of a U.N.-sponsored ceasefire in July 1988.

"Everyone in the office is happy because in the past week there was a general fear of a renewed Iraqi attack," one engineer said.

Speaking on Tehran Radio, Foreign Ministry spokesman Morteza Sar-madi said:

"We are happy that Iraq finally accepted the principled views of the Islamic Republic of Iran... which will bring back lasting and just peace... to the two countries and the region."

Saddam's letter to Rafsanjani said Iraq was accepting Tehran's terms for a peace treaty:

— A withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Iranian territory, to start on Friday.

— Acceptance of the 1975 Algiers treaty defining the border between the two countries.

Baghdad said it would free Iranian prisoners-of-war.

The Iranian news agency IRNA quoted a National Security Council

spokesman as saying Iraqi diplomats were to deliver Saddam's letter to Tehran later Wednesday.

Reconciliation between Iraq and Iran would not only eliminate an adversary on Saddam's eastern border but also would free troops from Iraq-held Iranian territory at a time of military buildup in Saudi Arabia.

Iran has condemned Iraq's takeover of Kuwait but also denounced the regional deployment of Western forces led by the United States.

Tehran Radio quoted Parliament Speaker Mehdi Karubi as saying Tuesday that a proposed visit by Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz could be undertaken only after settlement of the dispute over the 1975 treaty.

In his message, Saddam did not specify the size of territory his troops will evacuate. Iran claims Iraq still holds 2,000 square kilometres, occupied in the final weeks of the Gulf war. But the United Nations says the area is half that size.

"Our withdrawal... will begin on Friday while the prisoner release also begins then. We will be the ones to take the initiative in this (prisoner release) respect," said Saddam's message to Rafsanjani.

His letter disclosed for the first time that there had been contact between Tehran and Baghdad amid the escalating Gulf crisis.

Saddam said he had received a letter from Rafsanjani on Aug. 8, adding that he had decided to "accept your suggestion" to consider the 1975 border demarcation treaty as part of a settlement based on Resolution 598.

Saddam had rejected the 1975 treaty as a basis for a land demarcation agreement in peace talks after the ceasefire.

He has been demanding full sovereignty over the Shatt Al Arab waterway, which was divided between the two countries by the 1975 treaty. Shatt Al Arab, a confluence of the Tigris and Euphrates, is Iraq's key outlet to the Gulf.

In Geneva, the International Committee of the Red Cross said Iraq plans to repatriate a first batch of 2,000 Iranian prisoners of war Friday to start an exchange proposed as part of the peace initiative announced by Saddam.

ICRC spokeswoman Martin Haemmerli said Wednesday night the all-Swiss humanitarian agency has been asked by Iranian authorities to supervise the transfer. She said the ICRC

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King meets Bush today

Combined agency dispatches

HIS MAJESTY King Hussein meets U.S. President George Bush Thursday for talks on the Gulf crisis and possibilities of a diplomatic solution to the problem.

The King, who arrived in Washington Wednesday accompanied by Prime Minister Mudar Badran, Political Advisor Adnan Abu Odeh and Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem, was to meet with U.S. National Security Adviser Brent Scowcroft and spend the night in the U.S. capital before meeting Bush at the vacation home in Kennebunkport, Maine, Thursday.

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan said in Amman the King was working to "give peace and a dialogue a chance."

According to American television reports, which could not be confirmed by Jordanian sources, the King, who visited Baghdad Monday for talks with Saddam Hussein before arranging the meeting with Bush, is carrying an Iraqi proposal aimed at averting war in the Gulf over Baghdad's takeover of Kuwait and the subsequent American-led foreign and Arab troop build-up in Saudi Arabia.

Before leaving for Washington Tuesday evening, the King received a message from Saddam, Jordan Television said. But the contents were not disclosed.

According to CBS news, which quoted Jordanian sources, the message stated Iraq's willingness to attend an international conference to discuss withdrawing Iraqi troops from Kuwait if Bush froze all further troop deployment in and around the Gulf.

Prior to his departure, the King contacted several Arab leaders,

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Learn from Iraq, Italy tells Israel

ROME (R) — Italy told Israel Wednesday that it should show the same sort of imagination about solving the Palestinian problem as Iraqi President Saddam Hussein had done to end his dispute with Iran. "Israel must offer the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) a way out. One must show as much imagination as Iraq is displaying on the diplomatic front," Italian Foreign Minister Gianni De Michelis said after talks with his Israeli counterpart, David Levy. "Saddam Hussein's offer to Iran betrays his weakness at the same time as it shows his willingness to move forward. Israel must show the same flexibility," De Michelis said. De Michelis, current president of the European Community (EC) council of ministers, said Italy regarded the PLO's support for their Iraqi takeover of Kuwait as a serious mistake harmful to the interests of the Palestinian people. He said Italy would urge the PLO to take a more independent stand, but argued that the West had to understand why many Arabs and Palestinians had sympathy for an Iraqi leader they saw as the champion of their cause. "I told the Israeli minister that we must not hand Saddam Hussein cards that only serve to increase his influence in the Arab World and particularly that ways must be found of unblocking the Palestinian situation," he told a news conference.

Regent: King's mission crucial, Iraq-Iran peace an achievement

Combined agency dispatches

AMMAN — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan said Wednesday His Majesty King Hussein's current mission to the U.S. comes at a critical moment, for the situation in the Gulf and that Jordan was pursuing a diplomatic solution to the problem.

The Crown Prince, addressing a news conference held at Jordan Television and in a separate interview with ABC television, also said he could not divulge the contents of a proposal that the King was carrying with him to his meeting with the U.S. president Thursday.

Crown Prince Hassan also said the attempt to intimidate Iraq by squeezing its economy would not be effective.

He told foreign journalists that Jordan would continue to seek a "diplomatic breakthrough to the hardships" in the Gulf region.

"We are very well aware that Iraqis will not back down. We have said time and again that intimidation will not work," Prince Hassan told the news conference.

"Sanctions and embargos have not worked in the past," he added.

Prince Hassan reiterated Jordanian concern that the sanctions will "severely harm" the Jordanian economy and he affirmed that Jordan will consult with the U.N. regarding the latitude it might have in imposing the sanctions.

He said that as a result of frozen Iraqi and Kuwaiti assets worldwide, Jordan "is starting to feel the pinch" and noted that the country was losing at least \$3 million daily because of "frozen" Gulf banking transactions.

Prince Hassan said Jordan was in a unique position of being able to talk to both the United States and Iraq over the crisis and the King was working "to give peace and dialogue a chance."

"The (Iraq-Iran) Gulf war cost \$1 trillion to kill and maim over a million people. How many people will be killed and maimed by another Middle East war and how much will it cost?" he asked.

Asked whether King Hussein would ask Bush for aid, Prince Hassan replied:

"The discussion at the head of state level between the players directly involved is more over the political situation in region and how we can contain the possibility of conflict... not to talk about finance or assistance."

Following are major questions and answers from the Crown Prince's interview with ABC television:

Q: Crown Prince, President Bush said in his press conference yesterday that the meeting (between the King and Bush) does not have an agenda but we assume that the meeting will basically address the question of — is there room for diplomacy still — either in addressing the immediacy of the military action or the invasion of Kuwait and subsequent withdrawal or to discussion of the future of that particularly complicated issue or has the development of massive military intervention in the region with all the tension that entails to foreclose that positively.

A: I don't think that His Majesty would travelling at this crucial moment if he effectively the Iraqi leadership did not have a rational approach to the future. We have heard the Iraqi leadership characterised as being dangerous so I think everyone in the region accepts. But, at the same time, I think that they see the danger of excluding a rational approach and you heard today the Iraqi initiative vis-a-vis Iran, which I think shows a major achievement as your correspondent in Baghdad was saying a few minutes ago.

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Moscow warns of Gulf build-up

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet newspapers expressed growing concern over a build-up of forces in the Middle East Wednesday and urged Western countries to renew diplomatic efforts for a settlement with Iraq.

The Communist Party newspaper Pravda said diplomacy, not a naval buildup, was the best approach

Palestinians strike against U.S. troops on Arab land

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip stayed at home Wednesday in protest against the deployment of U.S. forces in the Middle East.

Palestinians planning to go to Saudi Arabia said they were barred from the kingdom, apparently in retaliation for opposing the Saudi alignment with the Americans in the Gulf crisis.

Transportation ground to a halt and stores in all West Bank and Gaza Strip cities and towns were shuttered for a strike called by the Muslim fundamentalist Hamas movement.

"We call for a general strike to protest the American crusader occupation of Muslims' land," a Hamas leaflet said of the U.S.-led Western military buildup in Saudi Arabia.

Hamas is one of two groups steering the 32-month-old uprising by Palestinians who have demonstrated in recent days against foreign intervention in the Gulf crisis and in support of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

Pictures of Saddam appeared this week for the first time ever

throughout the occupied territories and in Nazareth. Hundreds of pro-Iraqi Palestinians have staged daily demonstrations in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The depth of support for the Jewish state's most feared foe among the 700,000 Arabs in Israel and 1.75 million Palestinians in the occupied territories has surprised Israeli officials.

Defence Minister Moshe Arens said during a tour of the West Bank on Tuesday he was "disappointed" to discover so many Palestinians backed Iraq, whose president has threatened to use chemical weapons against Israel if it attacked any Arab state.

Hamas said it sent Saddam a message Wednesday urging him to close ranks with Muslim states and work for "liberating Palestine."

The group, an organ of the Muslim Brotherhood, was believed to have been financed by Saudi Arabia and Kuwait.

Palestinians said Saudi authorities prevented hundreds of them from entering the kingdom. Many, employed as civil servants or teachers, were told their services

were no longer needed.

More than 200,000 Palestinians, including thousands from the West Bank and Gaza Strip, live and work in Saudi Arabia.

Israeli officials at the Gaza Strip border crossing in Rafah told Reuters that Egyptians turn back some 20 Palestinians every day, most intending to travel to Saudi Arabia or Kuwait.

Egypt has sided with Saudi Arabia and the United States against Iraq, which seized Kuwait in a lightning attack on Aug. 2.

Palestinians said hundreds of their relatives were trapped in Jordan because of the Saudi policy.

A Gaza city doctor who worked in Saudi Arabia for eight years told his family he was refused entry last week without explanation.

"They simply told him that roads there were blocked by military traffic and there was no room for civilian vehicles," a brother said.

The engineers union in the Gaza Strip, dominated by Hamas supporters, Wednesday condemned U.S. threats to blockade Aqaba.

U.S. wants U.N. flag for warships in Gulf

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The United States, apparently reacting to criticism of its unilateral blockade of Iraqi shipping, suddenly expressed interest Tuesday in flying the U.N. flag to protect warships in the Gulf.

The Soviet Union, which for several years has been promoting a wider U.N. role in containing regional conflicts, called the U.S. move positive and said Moscow was open to broad discussion of joint military efforts under U.N. auspices.

Previously, the United States has been cool to the idea of U.S. generals, who command the largest foreign force in the Gulf, taking orders from U.N. military officers. The United States also has opposed Soviet military involvement in the region.

"The very fact that we are exploring this... mechanism shows we have no intention of ignoring the United Nations," a senior U.S. official told reporters. He spoke on condition of anonymity.

The last time an international military operation flew the U.N. flag was in 1950 during the Korean war, when the U.N. operation had placed under a U.S. command.

But now the United States and the Soviet Union are on the same side and the United States would like to bolster its unilateral action with U.N. support and U.N. action.

"We are prepared to consider all (military cooperation) ideas within the security council framework," said Valentin V. Lozinskiy, Soviet deputy permanent representative, after a council meeting to endorse Liechtenstein's U.N. membership.

But he told reporters "joint military action has not yet been brought for discussion" formally to the council.

"We certainly do not think using force is appropriate," he said in answer to a question about U.S. enforcement of the quarantine against Iraq. He refrained from criticizing the United States, but told questioners that in the council "the prevailing mood was for a cautious way to proceed and for the collective will to prevail."

He said most members of the 15-nation council wanted more time to determine the effectiveness of the U.N. economic sanctions against Iraq before deciding whether to call for a U.N. blockade.

Western diplomats said there was increasing council interest in U.N. action to enforce the economic sanctions, possibly moving carefully to a U.N. blockade.

"The Americans are ready to enforce U.N. sanctions, by themselves," one diplomat said. "But they would feel much more comfortable if they were backed up by council enforcement."

The Soviet Union reiterated Tuesday it believes the United Nations is the best forum for resolving the Gulf crisis.

Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze was joined in that assessment by Indian Kumar Gujral, the Indian foreign minister who the news agency TASS said flew to Moscow to discuss Iraq's takeover of Kuwait.

"Collective efforts are especially important in this situation," TASS quoted the two as saying.

"The international community should fully use the United Nations mechanism and the potential of the Security Council."

Turkey bars ships with Iraqi cargo

ANKARA (R) — Turkey has stopped ships unloading food for Iraq and is holding in one port 12,000 tonnes of cargo destined for Baghdad, an official at the southern Turkish port of Mersin said Wednesday.

"There are only three ships at the port, two of them carrying a total of 3,200 tonnes of refrigerated meat for Iraq. We are not allowing them to unload and expect them to leave soon," Deputy Port Manager Hasan Karakus told Reuters.

He told Reuters the ships were the 7,563-tonne Moroccan freighter Irfi and the Danish 1,398-tonne Ice Flower.

The Irfi had unloaded 2,597 tonnes of its 4,304-tonne meat cargo when Turkey implemented U.N. sanctions against Iraq on Aug. 6 for its takeover of Kuwait.

Since sanctions went into effect, a total of 12,500 tonnes of various commodities for Iraq had been unloaded but were now at Mersin, Karakus said.

"We do not know what will happen to them," he said.

Nine thousand tonnes of the blocked cargo was in containers and the rest was durable goods in the open, he added.

Ankara has said it will strictly observe sanctions and Karakus said: "If a vessel declares cargo

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Kuwait is a 'southern Iraqi city'

NICOSIA (AP) — The Iraqi government is now calling Kuwait City one of the "cities of southern Iraq" after Baghdad announced Kuwait's merger with Iraq. Baghdad at first installed a "provisional government of free Kuwait," which in turn declared a "republic" just 24 hours before Aug. 8 merger. Under the emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, it was known as the State of Kuwait and bridled at being called an "emirate," because in Arabic that term connotes a tiny sheikhdom or fiefdom. Iraqi spokesmen are now referring to "Kuwait, Al Jahra, and other cities of southern Iraq." Al Jahra is one of the municipalities that made up the State of Kuwait.

Shots fired near Iraq embassy in Bahrain

BAHRAIN (R) — Shots were fired Tuesday from a small boat on Bahrain's northeast coast where several embassies, including the Iraqi and Kuwaiti diplomatic missions, are sited, people who heard the gunfire said Wednesday. Diplomats said the shots had been fired in anger and that the Iraqi embassy was the target. There was no immediate official comment from Bahrain's Interior Ministry or from the embassy. Bahrainis in the nearby marina club heard the shots at around 7.45 p.m. (1645 GMT).

Network Mideast coverage boosts ratings

NEW YORK (AP) — The networks' coverage of the Middle East crisis last week boosted ratings for their evening newscasts by 19 per cent and gave them a larger average audience than prime-time entertainment shows. The increase was due to public interest in the news from the Middle East and U.S. military movements there, said NBC research Vice President Preston Beckman Tuesday.

CBS, NBC and ABC evening newscasts collectively averaged a 28.8 rating and a 60 per cent share of the audience last week, compared with a 28.1 rating and 53 share for prime time programmes, Nielsen Audience Estimates showed. ABC's front-running "World News Tonight" averaged a 10.6 rating. "The CBS Evening News," whose anchor, Dan Rather, has been in the Middle East since Iraq's Aug. 2 take-over of Kuwait, averaged a 9.3. "NBC Nightly News" ran third at 8.9 average. Each ratings point represents 921,000 homes. The audience share is the estimated percentage of homes tuned to a given programme in its time period.

'Kuwaiti diplomats in Iraq jailed'

LONDON (AP) — The British Broadcasting Corporation Wednesday quoted the Kuwaiti embassy in London as saying all Kuwaiti diplomats in Iraq have been jailed following Iraq's Aug. 2 take-over of its neighbour. The embassy said eight Kuwaiti diplomats in Baghdad, including the ambassador to Iraq, and three in the southern port of Basra were arrested by Iraqi authorities last weekend and taken to prison with their families, BBC World Service reported in a radio news bulletin. It gave no other details.

Kuwaiti 'resistance' radio to broadcast

CAIRO (R) — Kuwait's Al Anba daily appeared in Cairo Wednesday for the first time since Iraq's take-over of the Gulf state and said a resistance radio would soon start broadcasting from Egypt. Al Anba said the new station, "Radio Kuwait," would stay on the air for two hours a day broadcasting "patriotic programmes and calls on the sons of Kuwait to confront the Iraqi invasion." A Kuwait resistance radio, "Huna Al Kuwait" (this is Kuwait), operating from an undisclosed site south of Kuwait City, fell silent Tuesday after Baghdad Radio started transmissions on its frequency.

Sri Lankan minister to assess Gulf situation

COLOMBO (R) — President Ramasinghe-Premadasa will send a minister to the Middle East to investigate whether thousands of Sri Lankans stranded following Iraq's take-over of Kuwait require assistance. Premadasa has instructed Labour Minister G.M. Premachandra "to make an on-the-spot assessment of the position of stranded Sri Lankans and to take appropriate steps to afford them relief," the president's office said Wednesday. Premachandra was to leave later Wednesday for Jordan, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and other Middle East states. About 500,000 Sri Lankans were working in the Middle East, said David Soysa, chairman of the Sri Lanka Foreign Employment Bureau. Some 90,000 were in Kuwait, about 80 per cent of them working as maids.

Bangladesh imposes austerity measures

DHAKA (R) — Bangladesh has cut fuel and electricity use to beat a feared oil crisis following the United Nations sanctions against Iraq. Friday would be observed as an "oil holiday" throughout this South Asian country and all shops would have to close by 8 p.m. state-run television said. All neon signs and illuminations are banned and the number of street lights would be drastically reduced to conserve electricity, the television said. It said a special cabinet meeting Tuesday night, chaired by president Hossain Mohammad Ershad, took the austerity decision. Ershad said the Gulf crisis would not affect Bangladesh immediately but the country must be ready to face an unforeseen emergency. Bangladesh each year imports nearly two millions tonnes of petroleum products and about a million tonnes of crude oil from Gulf countries, particularly from Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. Energy ministry officials said that the current oil stock in Bangladesh would last till October.

Iraq bars six Japanese from leaving

TOKYO (R) — Iraqi border guards turned back six Japanese trying to enter Jordan Tuesday, Japan's foreign minister said Wednesday. Iraqi officials had also told other Japanese trying to leave that the Baghdad government would not issue departure visas, the ministry said in a statement. There are 230 Japanese in Iraq and 278 in Kuwait. Most of those in Kuwait have taken refuge in the Japanese embassy, it said. Since Iraq's Aug 2 take-over of Kuwait, 172 Japanese have fled Iraq. No injuries have been reported, the ministry said.

Egypt delays dispatch of troops

CAIRO (AP) — Egypt postponed without explanation a scheduled departure at dawn Wednesday of a new batch of elite combat troops to Saudi Arabia.

The government's press office, which had invited the press to cover the departure of the Egyptian soldiers, informed the AP that their leaving had been postponed until further notice.

It was not immediately known why the scheduled departure had been postponed or until when.

An unspecified number of troops had been scheduled to depart from a military airport near Cairo. The soldiers were expected to bear few offensive arms but carry one essential defensive item — gas masks.

About 3,000 Egyptian soldiers flew to Saudi Arabia at the weekend, military sources said, part of a joint Arab force agreed by 12 Arab states at a summit in Cairo last Friday.

Wednesday's departures were to have been the first of up to 2,000 reinforcements the sources said are to join the Egyptian force

dispatched to face concentrations of Iraqi troops at the Saudi frontier. They said the numbers could increase.

Officially, the government has given no specifics on the Egyptian task force. But the military sources said it includes commandos, paratroops, chemical-warfare specialists and infantrymen.

Contributors to the joint Arab force are Egypt, Syria and Morocco. Pakistan also promised to send troops.

The military sources said Egyptian soldiers in Saudi Arabia, like their comrades in the U.S.-led multinational force, are equipped with gas masks. The precaution is in anticipation of possible Iraqi use of poison gas in the event of combat, they said.

The sources would not say, however, whether the Egyptian contingent is equipped with chemical weapons.

Egypt's arsenal is known to have included poison gas for about three decades, and Egypt was reported to have used that weapon in the early 1960s in

Yemen.

Between 1962 and 1967, Egyptian troops fought alongside Yemeni republican forces against Saudi-backed royalists. Reports persisted that Egypt used gas on the battlefield, although Cairo never admitted it.

The military sources said Egypt has set no limit on the size of its contribution to the joint Arab force. It will depend, they said, on the size of the Syrian and Moroccan contingents and on Saudi requirements.

Advance units of the Syrian contingent arrived in Saudi Arabia Tuesday.

A contingent of Moroccan soldiers has been dispatched to Saudi Arabia, authorised sources said in Rabat.

The 1,200-man force arrived in Riyadh on Sunday to perform a "symbolic" defensive role with U.S., British, Egyptian, Saudi and other troops already there, the sources said.

No other details were disclosed. Saudi radio monitored in Rabat late Tuesday confirmed the account.

'\$5.5 million ransom paid for ICRC hostages'

BEIRUT (AP) — A ransom of \$5.5 million has been paid to gain the release of two Swiss hostages of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), a Beirut newspaper said Wednesday.

The conservative Al Anwar daily did not say who paid the ransom for freeing Emmanuel Christen and Elio Erriqez.

It quoted sources in South Lebanon's port city of Sidon, where the two were kidnapped in October, as saying Erriqez's freedom was delayed for several hours because of the kidnappers' demand to raise the ransom.

"The kidnappers insisted on collecting the full amount and that the share of third party which worked as a mediator be added to the previous amount," the source said without further elaboration.

The paper said the ransom increase caused panic, which upset the release operation of Erriqez.

Bush said to have okayed 'secret arms' for Egypt

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — President George Bush has secretly approved the transfer of more than \$1 billion worth of advanced F-16 fighter jets and antitank missiles to Egypt in the first case of what could be a new round of arms exports to the Middle East, the Washington Post said Wednesday.

The Egyptian arms transfer, which requires congressional approval and funding, would add to Cairo's arsenal at least 40 F-16s and associated weaponry, including dozens of Maverick air-to-surface missiles and cluster bombs, the Post said.

The report quoted administration officials as saying the White House was also considering stepping up arms sales to Saudi Arabia, Oman, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, Morocco and Turkey. Each of these has assisted in the U.N.-ordered trade ban aimed at forcing Iraq to withdraw the troops that seized Kuwait Aug. 2.

The report, citing military officials, said the administration was considering sales of Stinger missiles to Oman and the United

Arab Emirates. One official was quoted as saying King Hassan of Morocco was seeking F-16s like those sent to Egypt but lacked funds to buy them.

The White House had no immediate comment on the report.

Bush and Secretary of State James Baker had said the administration plans to waive a congressional limit of 60 F-16 aircraft that may be held by Saudi Arabia, allowing at least 12 new fighters to be deployed under Saudi control to defend against any air attack.

The sales and transfers would be aimed partly at bolstering the military forces of nations supporting or participating in the multinational Arab defence force now being assembled on Saudi oil, several officials were quoted as saying.

"Another aim is to help some of Iraq's neighbours defend against future aggression," the Post said. "The defence bureaucracy wants to sprinkle arms throughout the region," a senior U.S. official was quoted as saying.

Iraq makes peace with Iran

(Continued from page 1)

was now awaiting word from Tehran whether the repatriation could go ahead as planned.

It would be the biggest group to be returned by any side since fighting ended in the eight-year war between Iraq and Iran.

Iran's spiritual leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, Wednesday lashed out at the American forces in the Gulf, calling U.S. domination over the world "hellish," Tehran Radio reported.

Speaking at religious gathering in Tehran, Khamenei said that the presence of foreign powers in the region amounted to a "fight of the world's hegemonist powers over material interests and resources."

Condemning the West, and the Arab countries which backed Iran in the war against Iran, he asked: "Global arrogance and reactionary regimes of the region maintained an inhumane silence during the eight-year incursion against Iran."

"They are now excited by the invasion of Kuwait, and have adopted vast efforts to protect their interests."

Iraq makes peace with Iran

Global arrogance is a revolutionary Iranian euphemism for the West and the United States.

Condemning the presence of American forces in the region, Khamenei said: "The global order dominating the world is a hellish establishment which has taken the fate of humanity into its own hands."

Khamenei said the United States had long been wanted to strengthen its military presence in the region, and Iraq's takeover of Kuwait had given Washington the pretext to carry out its designs.

Syrian Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam was due in Tehran Wednesday for talks with Iranian leaders. Syria was Iran's main Arab supporter during the Gulf war.

Iran also received message about the Gulf crisis from the Soviet Union and Oman Wednesday, IRNA said.

It gave no details about the messages from Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and Oman's Sultan Qaboos Ben Said which were handed to Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati and President Rafsanjani respectively.

JORDAN TELEVISION	
Tel: 773111-19	
PROGRAMME ONE	
15:30	Koran
15:40	Programme review
15:45	Children programme
17:10	Book of Adventure
18:00	News summary
18:10	Local programme
19:50	Programme review
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	Local series
21:30	Programme review
21:40	Local programme
22:30	Arabic film
23:00	News in Arabic
PROGRAMME TWO	
17:45	Mollirissim
18:10	Des Chiffres et de lettres
18:30	La Chanson aux chameaux
19:00	News in French
19:15	Sirocco
19:30	News in Hebrew
19:45	Varities
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	Different world
21:10	The Return of Sherlock Holmes
22:00	News in English
22:30	Feature film: "Lost in London"
PRAYER TIMES	
04:30	Fajr
05:35	(Sunrise) Duha
12:40	Dhuhr
16:19	'Asr

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

<p>erate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.</p> <p>Mile/mph. temp.</p> <p>Aqaba 18 / 32</p> <p>Aqaba 24 / 38</p> <p>Dead Sea 17 / 36</p> <p>Jordan Valley 22 / 37</p> <p>Yesterday's high temperature: Amman 30, Aqaba 35. Humidity readings: Amman 41 per cent, Aqaba 34 per cent.</p>	
USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS	
NIGHT DUTY	
AMMAN:	
Dr. Khalil Abdul Qader	795392
Dr. Ahmed Al Natour	653934
Farouk pharmacy	661912
Al Asma pharmacy	778336
Natourah pharmacy	626672
Al Salem pharmacy	636730
Yacoub pharmacy	649495
Shamsat pharmacy	635660
IRBID:	
Dr. Kamal Al Najjar	(—)
Al Shams pharmacy	(985238)
ZARQA:	
Dr. Hisham Al Najjar	(—)
Khalaf pharmacy	985417
EMERGENCIES	
Civil Defence Department	661111
Civil Defence Immediate	630341
Civil Defence Emergency	139
Fire Brigade	192, 621111, 637777
Police	891228
Blood Bank	775121
Highway Police	843402
Traffic Police	896390
Public Security Department	630321
Hotel Complaints	605800
Price Complaints	661176
Water and Sewerage	
Complaints	897467
Autism Municipality	
Complaints	787111
Telephone Information	
Repairs	121
Overseas Calls	010230
Central Amman Telephone	
Repairs	623101
Abdullah Telephone Repair	661101
Jordan Television	771111
Radio Jordan	741111
Water Authority	660100
Jordan Electricity Authority	815615
Electric Power	
Company	636381
RJ Flight Information	06-33200
Queen Alia Int. Airport	06-33200
HOSPITALS	
AMMAN:	
Hamdan Medical Centre	813813/32
Khalid Maternity, J. Amn.	642816
Khalid Maternity, J. Amn.	642442
Jabal Amman Maternity	642362
Malham, J. Amman	636140
Palestine, Shamsat	664171/4
Shamsat Hospital	669131
University Hospital	843945
Al-Musharraf Hospital	6672719
The Islamic, Abdali	666127/27
Al-Ahli, Abdali	6641646
Italian, Al-Majnoon	777101/3
Al-Bashir, J. Amman	7751126
Army, Marja	891611/5
Queen Alia Hospital	602240/20
Al-Haram Hospital	674125
ZARQA:	
Zarqa Govt. Hospital	(09)983323
Zarqa National Hospital	(09)991071
Al-Bashir, J. Amman	7751126
Al-Bashir, J. Amman	7751126
IBRD:	
Princess Banna Hospital	(02)275555
Green Catholic Hospital	(02)272275
Bin Al-Nafice Hospital	(02)247100
AQABA:	
Princess Haya Hospital	(03)314111

Other Flights (Terminal 2)	
06:20	Riyadh (add.) (SV)
10:20	Sana'a (SV)
10:30	Riyadh (SV)
10:30	Brussels, Ankara (TC)
10:30	Dubai (EK)
10:30	Muscat, Bahrain (GF)
10:30	Cairo (MS)
10:30	Amsterdam, Istanbul (KL)
10:30	Frankfurt (LH)
10:30	Zarqa, Larnaca (SR)
DEPARTURES	
Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)	
11:45	Rome (RJ)
11:45	London (RJ)
13:15	Paris (RJ)
14:00	Larnaca (RJ)
14:00	Aqaba (RJ)
14:00	Bahrain, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
14:00	Doha (RJ)
14:00	Cairo (RJ)
14:00	Dubai (RJ)
14:00	Kuala Lumpur, Singapore (RJ)
14:00	Muscat (RJ)
Other Flights (Terminal 2)	
06:00	Damascus, Paris (AF)
11:10	Frankfurt (LH)
14:00	Riyadh (SV)
14:00	Bahrain, Muscat (GF)
17:30	Ankara, Istanbul (TK)
17:30	Dubai (EK)
18:30	Cairo (MS)
MARKET PRICES	
Upper/lower price in fils per kg.	
Apple	600 / 500
Apricots	600 / 500
Banana	500 / 450
Banana (Malabar)	450 / 400
Beans	300 / 250
Cabbage	130 / 100
Carrot	240 / 180
Cauliflower	250 / 200
Corn	200 / 150
Cucumbers (large)	120 / 80
Cucumbers (small)	240 / 180
Eggplant	160 / 120
Figs	800 / 700
Grapefruit	350 / 300
Grapes	250 / 200
Lemon (green)	350 / 300
Lemon (yellow)	450 / 400
Melons	120 / 80
Marrow (large)	100 / 60
Marrow (small)	200 / 150
Onion (dry)	220 / 180
Orange	440 / 400
Okra	450 / 400
Peaches	550 / 500
Peas	200 / 150
Pepper (hot)	150 / 120
Pepper (sweet)	150 / 120
Potatoes	250 / 200
Radish	150 / 100
Sage	500 / 400
Sweet onion	160 / 100
Tomatoes	150 / 100
Watermelon	110 / 70

السلامة

Egyptian embassy denies improper treatment of Egyptian expatriates

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Egyptian embassy in Amman Wednesday denied an Egyptian press report including allegations of improper treatment of Egyptian expatriates by the Jordanian border authorities.

"A report about alleged mistreatment by the Jordanian authorities of Egyptian nationals at the crossing points, while on their way from Kuwait and Iraq, as published in the Egyptian newspaper 'Al Wafd' is totally groundless," said Charge d'Affaires here, Ramzi Allam.

Allam said that Egyptian embassy officials accompanied by teams of officials from the Egyptian Interior Ministry are stationed at the crossing points to help process the entry into Jordanian territory of Egyptian ex-

patriates; they are working in close cooperation with the Jordanian authorities in these matters. "These Egyptian officials have been reporting full cooperation with the Jordanian side which has been according the best treatment to the Egyptians upon their crossing into Jordan," Allam said.

Allam voiced deep appreciation to the Jordanian Interior Ministry and the Public Security Department for their full cooperation with the Egyptian side in dealing with matters related to the returning Egyptian expatriates.

He also appealed to the Egyptian press to be more accurate in reporting news about the expatriates to help maintain strong

Egyptian-Jordanian ties. Coinciding with the statement, the Public Security Department (PSD) circulated strict instructions to all border police stations to double their efforts in the course of providing facilities and services for all the travellers going in or out of Jordan.

"It is the duty of all policemen and police women under any circumstances to remain polite to foreigners and Jordanian citizens at all crossing points and border centres in order to reflect the best image about Jordan's hospitality," the circular said.

It appealed to all commanders of police stations at the border to see to it that the standing instructions are respected and honoured.

Crown Prince, Indian minister review Middle East, Gulf issues

AMMAN (J.T.) — Visiting Indian Minister of Energy and Civil Aviation Aref Mohammad Khan was received here Wednesday by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, with whom he reviewed recent developments in the Middle East and the Gulf regions.

Prince Hassan explained Jordan's position vis-a-vis the present situation in the Gulf and called for a peaceful settlement. He also warned against continued presence of foreign military forces on Arab or Islamic lands. The Indian minister expressed his country's appreciation of Jordan for the facilities offered to the Indian expatriates returning home from Kuwait via Jordan.

There are at least 17,000 Indian nationals working in Kuwait and planning to return to India via Jordan, the minister said.

The Regent promised that Jordan would do all it can to arrange for the reception of Indian expatriates and for their safe return home.

Khan met Tuesday with the Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Salem Masaadeh to discuss facilities for the Indian expatriates arriving in Jordan from Kuwait.

He later held talks with Minister of Transport and Communications Nabil Abul Huda to discuss bilateral cooperation.

Doctors, pharmacists to ensure medical services

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Arab Doctors Federation (ADF) will hold an emergency meeting in Tunis Sunday to discuss the dangerous situation in the Arab World brought about by the presence of American and other foreign troops in the Arabian peninsula and the Gulf region.

ADF Secretary-General, Hassan Khreis, said that the federation's secretariat would demand the formation of medical teams to help the wounded Iraqis in the event of an outbreak of hostilities.

Khreis said that the secretariat would call for the immediate withdrawal of American forces from Arab land and for settling Arab problems by the Arab countries themselves. The federation groups doctors' unions in Jordan, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, Palestine, Syria, Iraq and Bahrain.

CLARIFICATION

In the story, "Rush for U.S. dollars, withdrawals continues," which appeared in the Jordan Times issue of Aug. 15, 1990, a senior official was quoted as saying that "banks are under no obligation to sell foreign exchange... except upon availability. Otherwise they could have them (customers) cheques or transfer their foreign currency deposits..." The statement should have made clear that banks are under no obligation to give clients hard currency banknotes. Banks are obliged to give foreign exchange transfers and cheques in accordance with Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) regulations.

Pro-Iraqi Jordanians demonstrate in Jerash

JERASH (R) — More than 5,000 Jordanians and Palestinians took to the narrow alleys of this Greco-Roman city on Wednesday to praise Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and denounce western intervention in the Gulf crisis.

"Down with America," the men and women shouted as one of the demonstrators burned a U.S. flag in protest against American-led foreign intervention in the Gulf.

Referring to Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Saudi Arabia's King Fahd, they said "Ob Mubarak you traitor... oh Fahd you collaborator."

Mubarak has sent troops into Saudi Arabia to join U.S. and other western forces stationed there to protect the kingdom in case it comes under Iraqi attack.

Italy wants U.N. envoy

(Continued from page 1)

possibility of leaving those countries freely. Iraq has relaxed restrictions imposed immediately after its take-over of Kuwait to allow thousands of Arabs, Asians, Africans, Latin Americans and East Europeans to leave.

But most West Europeans and Americans have remained stranded in Iraq and Kuwait despite pledges by Baghdad that all foreigners are safe and free to leave.

Italy said Monday that as of Aug. 7 there were 3,657 EC citizens in Kuwait and 2,243 in Iraq. Most were British, French or West German.

An estimated 3,000-Americans were still in Kuwait and Iraq. Foreigners escaping Kuwait and Baghdad flooded through the desert to Jordan Wednesday — but some died in the 50 degrees Centigrade (120 Fahrenheit) heat.

Officials said 4,000 people arrived in Jordan in 12 hours. They included 2,000 Egyptians, 360 Jordanians, Syrians, Lebanese,

Pakistanis, Indians, Filipinos, Yemenis and Tunisians.

Refugees reaching Umari on the Saudi border told Reuters correspondent Rana Sabbagh they spent five days driving across desert roads.

"Some people died in the desert, others got lost and many cars were stuck in the sand," said Abu Ali, 40.

The only Europeans to cross at Al Ruweished Wednesday were 11 Poles.

Some 100 trucks, mainly loaded with grain, rumbled through the Jordanian frontier towards Baghdad.

At Umari, 180 kilometres southeast of Amman, officials said 1,000 refugees from Kuwait crossed in the last 12 hours.

Many were crammed into trucks with their babies and piles of furniture, mattresses and other possessions.

The first group of Iraqis who were stranded in Kuwait arrived home after a tortuous escape through Saudi Arabia and Qatar, the Iranian news agency IRNA said Wednesday.

Chinese minister voices his country's opposition to foreign troops in Mideast

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Chinese Deputy Minister of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade Li Lang Qing Wednesday voiced his country's opposition to the presence of foreign troops in the Middle East and the use of military power to settle conflicts and disputes.

Speaking at a meeting with His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Li said that the Gulf crisis should be settled within the Arab context.

The Regent also voiced Jordan's opposition to the presence of foreign troops and said that Arab diplomacy should be given a chance to deal with the Gulf crisis.

In reviewing with the Chinese official the latest developments, Prince Hassan stressed Jordan's readiness to work towards a

peaceful solution to the Gulf crisis and to all other conflicts which have been plaguing the Middle East on the basis of total and comprehensive solutions, taking into consideration all parties interests at various political and economic levels.

Li said that the Chinese leadership highly appreciates Jordan's role in trying to reach a political settlement to the Gulf crisis.

Before meeting the Regent, Li had signed an economic cooperation agreement with Jordan, pledging to provide a \$10 million loan for the Kingdom to help it finance part of its development schemes.

The \$10 million loan, payable over the next five years, will be spent on projects on which bilateral agreement is yet to be

reached, according to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

Petra said that the loan, to be paid in equal instalments, will be in the form of commodities or in convertible currency, to be mutually agreed on, and with special arrangements for each project separately.

Li also signed an agreement for handing over the Al Hassan Sports City in Irbid which was constructed with Chinese assistance in accordance with the terms of an earlier agreement signed by a Chinese construction company and the Ministry of Public Works and Housing.

The Chinese company, which started work on the project in 1987, had shipped equipment for the project and provided specialists and engineers.

Last Saturday Li attended a

ceremony for the inauguration of the sports city which cost around \$10 million, with half of the cost provided as a loan by China.

Li had a meeting earlier this week with Dr. Ibrahim Badran, the Ministry of Industry and Trade's secretary-general, to discuss trade and economic relations and to review means of increasing the volume of goods exchanged between the two countries.

A ministry statement said later that Jordan's potato exports, which this year are expected to reach 250,000 tonnes, could reach 500,000 tonnes in 1991.

The agreements were signed at the Ministry of Planning by its Secretary-General Safwan Touqan and Li in the presence of Chinese Ambassador to Jordan Zhang De Liang and other officials.

Yemenis are stranded in Amman as Saudi Arabia closes border to them

By Nur Sati
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A group of 400 Yemenis who arrived in Amman after midnight Tuesday on their own were found stranded in various mosques throughout the city, anxious to go back home.

It seems though that the Yemenis are having difficulty departing because Saudi Arabia has announced its closure of air and land routes to the Yemenis.

According to the Yemenis interviewed by the Jordan Times, the majority of whom are shopkeepers who left Iraq because work had come to a halt, "we are still waiting for news from our embassy but

they told us that Saudi Arabia was closing the border and air space to us."

According to Yemenia (the Yemen national airline), there are flights every Wednesday to Sanaa. Neither the Yemeni embassy nor the Saudi Arabian embassy here were able to comment on the situation.

"We will have to go by sea and the embassy will send our cars later," said one Yemeni in the group.

There are many people on the Iraqi border, mostly Arabs, waiting to leave either by bus or car. Another 20,000 Yemenis have remained in Iraq waiting for arrangements for their travel, the group said. Meanwhile, panic swept over Indian citizens in Bag-

dad Wednesday as reports focused on a group of Egyptians who took over two of the four buses ordered by the Indian embassy in Jordan to transport their people from Baghdad to Amman.

The report said that four buses from the Al Haramen Agency, left the station early Wednesday heading towards the Indian embassy. Rather than reporting to the embassy, the buses went straight to Baghdad station.

According to an official, "there was a large group of Egyptians there who must have bribed the bus drivers into taking their group, but it was not a hijack."

Another official said that reports coming in were largely

exaggerated and explained that when the four buses were leaving the premises and heading for the Indian embassy, "two of the buses got lost on the way." So far the official knows the two buses are still missing. "We are not even sure how they were taken."

Officials nevertheless have reassured the parties concerned that no Indian citizens from Baghdad, that were meant to leave for Jordan, are left behind. "The embassy ordered three more buses after discovering that the other two were missing."

Already, a group of 370 Indians waiting in Jordan for a special Air India flight heading for Bombay left Wednesday evening, officials said.

Hittin refugee camp holds rally of support for Iraq

By Ali Masarweh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Anti-western slogans and placards dominated the scene at a rally held in support of Iraq in the yard of Aln Ghazal Secondary School at the Hittin refugee camp near the town of Ruseifeh Wednesday afternoon.

Several hundred people took part in the rally, chanting anti-western slogans. The governments of Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Syria and other Arab states were also harshly criticised at the rally, which was jointly organised by the Hittin Youth Organisation and the town of Ruseifeh.

Several Jordanian public figures took part in the rally, urging Arabs to unite and counter the latest threats by

the U.S. and western countries to the Arab nation.

Mohammad Al Haj, member of the Muslim Brotherhood faction in the Lower House of Parliament, urged Muslims "to rise against the foreign invaders and liberate the holy shrines in Saudi Arabia."

Al Haj called on Muslims to put a stop to "U.S.-sponsored factionalism" in the Arab World.

"The results of the Sykes-Picot agreement has to be discarded once and for all," he urged, referring to the 1916 agreement between France and Britain which divided Greater Syria into today's entities of Iraq, Syria, Jordan, Palestine and Lebanon.

The other speakers were Mashhour Haditheh, a retired

army general, Mousa Ali Al-Assad, the mayor of Ruseifeh, Mohammad Dawudieeb, a prominent Jordanian journalist and Dr. Nader Tamimi of the Jordanian faction of the Islamic Jihad.

The speakers urged Arab leaders to take a united stand in dealing with problems faced by the Arab Nation. They further expressed support and sympathy for Iraq in the current Gulf crisis.

"Arab pride and honour is at stake," a participant of the rally told the Jordan Times. "We have to achieve unity at all costs; then we will be able to solve our (political) goals, namely the liberation of Palestine," he added.

Similar rallies and marches in support of Iraq were organised throughout the Kingdom during the past few days.

Ministry issues detailed report on education costs

AMMAN (J.T.) — The average cost of providing education to a student in government schools has been estimated at JD 113 annually, according to a report by the Ministry of Education published Monday.

It said that the estimates were based on a study of the schools' needs in the coming years in implementation of resolutions issued by the 1987 national educational conference.

Dr. Majed Bader, head of the Statistics Department at the Ministry of Education, said the estimated cost took into consideration interest on loans to the ministry which carries out various building and other projects, wear and tear of materials, devaluation of the price of school buildings, and overhead expenses which include salaries of teachers and officials, rent and allowances for teaching staff in various areas of the country.

According to Dr. Bader, a student in the primary stage costs an average JD 70 annually, a student in the preparatory stage JD 138 and a student in the secondary stage JD 215. The total cost of vocational training at schools is normally higher than academic schools, reaching an average of JD 934 per student a year in the hotel management stream, JD 864 for a student in the agricultural stream, and JD 253 for each student in any of the other vocational streams: nursing, industry and commerce.

Dr. Bader attributed the rising cost of vocational training to the increasing cost of equipment and

educational aids needed for vocational centres.

In February this year, the Ministry of Education said that it would spend JD 40 million from now until 1998 to equip schools with technical facilities, including laboratories and on setting up centres for manufacturing educational aids for schools.

In June 1990, the Council of Ministers gave its approval for the construction of 30 school buildings as a first stage in a programme which entails setting up 180 schools by 1992.

It said that altogether a total of 67 schools would be constructed during 1990 and the Ministry of Education has already announced tenders for the construction of some of them.

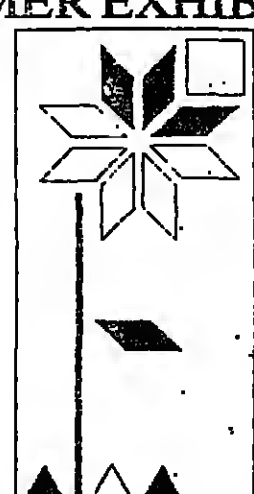
The ministry estimated the cost of building 30 schools at \$12 million.

According to the June statement, 100 school buildings were under construction, of which 40 at least will be ready to receive students in the 1990-1991 scholastic year.

Drive carefully!
Traffic
can be hazardous

Under the Patronage of
Her Majesty Queen Noor Al Hussein
IN COOPERATION WITH POOR AL-HUSSEIN FOUNDATION
AND THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
AND FUNDED BY U.S.A.I.D.

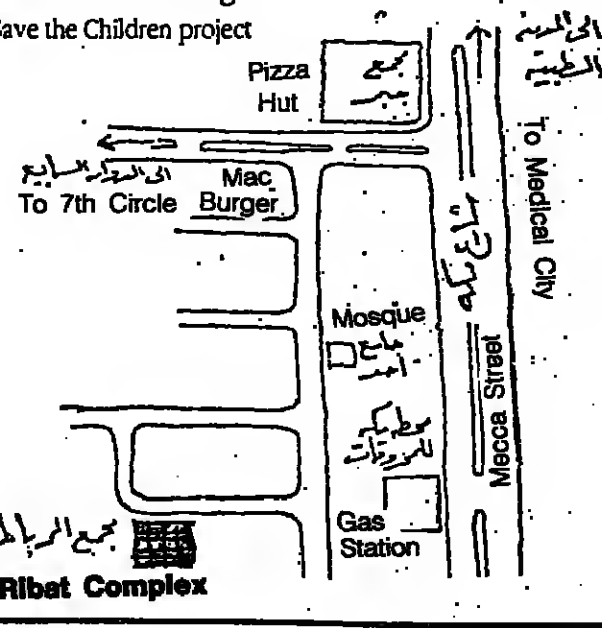
**THE HANDICRAFT
SUMMER EXHIBITION**



quilts leather handbags beachbags
collector's dolls picture frames olive oil soap

Thursday, 9 - Saturday 18 August, 1990
11:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. at Al-Ribat Center

Jordan River Designs
Save the Children project



To Medical City
Mecca Street
Ribat Complex

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

King sends reply cables

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Wednesday sent reply cables to Saudi King Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz and Sheikh Issa Ibn Salman Al Khalifa of Bahrain who congratulated the King on the anniversary of his accession to the throne. The King thanked the two leaders and wished them good health and happiness and their peoples further progress and prosperity.

Regent congratulates Indonesia

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, sent a cable of congratulations to Indonesian President Suharto, congratulating him on his country's national day. Prince Hassan wished the president continued good health and happiness and the Indonesian people further progress and prosperity.

Cabinet endorses protocol

AMMAN (Petra) — The Council of Ministers Wednesday endorsed a cultural cooperation protocol between Jordan and Turkey for the years 1990, 1991 and 1992. The protocol provides for increasing the volume of bilateral cooperation in cultural fields.

Councils to hold solidarity rally

AMMAN (Petra) — A public rally will be held at the Palace of Culture on Thursday morning to voice solidarity with Iraq. The rally, to be attended by heads of municipal councils in Jordan, is to be held under the motto "Confronting the New Imperialist-Zionist Aggression Against the Arab World."

Bank approves loan for Fuhais municipality

FUHAIS (Petra) — Cities and Villages Development Bank Wednesday approved presenting a JD 60,000 loan for Al Fuhais Municipality to complete the final stage of Al Fuhais House. Fuhais Mayor Farouq Iraisat said the tender will be announced in the coming few days.

People's Army batch graduates

IRBID (Petra) — A new batch of the People's Army recruits graduated Wednesday at Yarmouk University. Irbid Governor Jawad Al Shoul distributed awards to winners in shooting and other military skills competitions.

35,000 in Maan unemployed

MAAN (Petra) — A total of 35,000 Jordanians in the Maan district are unemployed and seeking jobs and the Vocational Training Centre (VTC) is trying to help them find jobs, according to Ahmad Atwan, VTC's director general. He made the statement at a general meeting held at Maan Municipality where discussion dealt with vocational training course for the job seekers in the governorate to replace non-Jordanians.

Jordan receives sheep vaccines

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Agriculture has received half a million doses of vaccine to provide immunity to sheep in Jordan against foot and mouth disease. The gift came from the Ministry of Agriculture in Iraq, according to Minister of Agriculture Suleiman Arabiyat. Arabiyat said that the gift was worth \$100,000 and he voiced Jordan's appreciation to Iraq.

Jordan Times WEEKENDER

Published Every Thursday

Aug. 16, 1990 [A]

Volker Ludwig and GRIPS in Berlin — Pioneers of the children's theatre

By Andreas Rossmann

BERLIN — For a whole generation of Berliners, the Hansa-Platz underground station is at the top of their theatre list. Here, as pupils or pre-school pupils, they made their first acquaintance with an art unknown to their parents: "Realistic theatre, in which children recognise themselves and their environment, which stimulates their imagination, and increases their self-confidence. GRIPS means: Realisation through laughter."

With this pretension, the theatre, which moved into a former cinema in 1947, had given itself this programmatic title two years before — as a radical reaction to the Grimm Brothers, whose dramatised and usually glossed fairy tales dominated the repertoire for children at the time.

Instead of Little Red Riding Hood or Rumpelstiltskin, the plays now had titles such as *Daft is Daft*, *A Party at Papadakis's* or *Max and Milli*. With these and many such others, Volker Ludwig, a cofounder of the GRIPS Theatre, which he still runs, revolutionised the children's theatre, in collaboration with authors such as Rainer Hachfeld, Detlef Michel, Stefan Reimer and Reiner Lückner. They have made an enlightening utility-theatre out of a transforming magic box.

The beginnings of this "different" children's theatre go back much farther, however, and are to be found in cabaret and the student movement. Volker Ludwig founded the "Reichskabarett" in 1965. "The idea of performing plays for children came from our close association with the student move-

ment. It came into being at the same time as the 'Kinderläden' (kindergartens based on anti-authoritarian principles)," he says.

The first premiere took place in June 1966: *The Devil With the Three Red Hairs*. Something other than a fairy tale was still inconceivable at the time, even if many features were taken over from cabaret.

It was not until 1969 that Volker Ludwig, together with Carsten Krüger, wrote a realistic play with an everyday background, with "imperfect" parents and a marked anti-authoritarian tendency: *Maximilian Pfeiferling* is the turbulent story of a young lad who fights against injustice and succeeds in encouraging the family to practise solidarity and civic courage. In summer 1971, after three further plays, the ensemble, although successful, gave up cabaret and devoted their efforts entirely to children's and youth theatre. The political movement had fragmented; target groups and groundwork were the new maxims for their artistic activity.

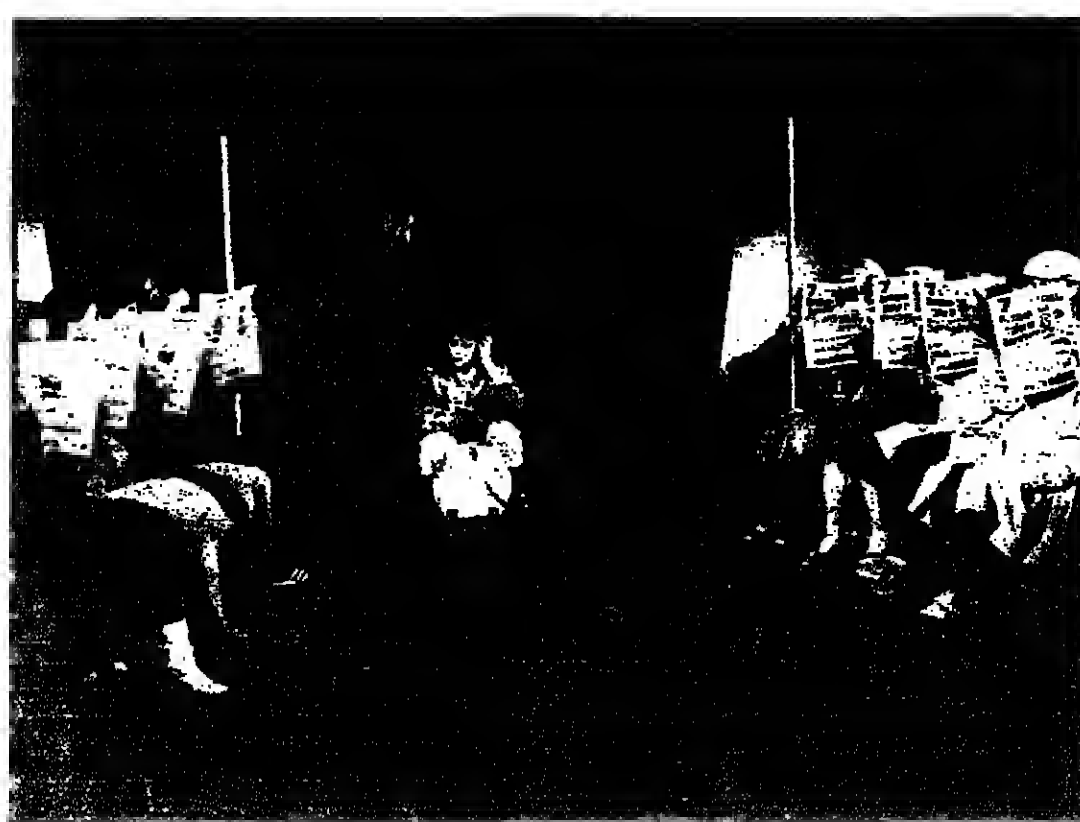
Although Volker Ludwig, who was born in Ludwigshafen/Rhine in 1937 and grew up in Thuringia, didn't exactly inherit the makings of a cabaret artist, there is evidence to this effect on his birth certificate: his real name, Eckart Hachfeld, is also that of his father, a well-known cabaret artist. When the family moved to Berlin in 1952 and young Volker began writing squibs, songs and satires, he had to adopt a nom de plume.

"Take two first names," a female editor advised him. "That's the most unvain thing to do," Volker Ludwig, as

Eckart Hachfeld Jr. now styled himself, did so well that he was able to afford a car on graduating from high school. He provided the Berlin "Stachel-Schwein" (cabaret ensemble) with their first numbers in 1959 and, shortly afterwards, the "Kom(m)ödchen" in Düsseldorf and cabaret artist Wolfgang Neuss. He chucked his German and art history studies after nine semesters and, after completing a traineeship at a radio station, became a freelance writer.

About half of the more than 40 plays performed by the GRIPS Theatre, and almost all the songs (over 300), were written by Volker Ludwig himself. The Goethe Institute has dispatched him three times around the globe, his plays have been translated into 30 languages; his influence extends as far as Brazil, India and Australia. Various troupes have been sent to his seminars and workshops; they have adapted GRIPS plays and taken them as a model for their own productions. This pioneer work was only gradually recognised in Germany; it constantly came up against prejudices and resistance. Today, the GRIPS Theatre receives subsidies to the tune of DM 2 million; its annual budget comes to DM 3.6 million.

Volker Ludwig and "his" GRIPS Theatre have experienced their greatest success outside the children's theatre with their musical *Line 1* (Line 1). It is a station-by-station drama in the lexical sense; Birger Heymann composed the music. The action takes place in the Berlin underground and relates — in a somewhat free and trivial manner — a variation on the



Line 1 is one of the most successful theatrical productions by the internationally famous Berlin GRIPS Theatre. It tells the story of a country girl seeking her prince

theme of "country girl seeks her prince charming."

But in so doing, the production is captivating because of its rhythm and its abundant charm, its joie de vivre and the infamous "Berliner Luft" (Berlin atmosphere).

Line 1 was first put on the rails at the Hansa-Platz in April 1986. Since that time it has rolled over 50 or more stages at home and abroad.

Reinhard Hauff, who filmed the musical twice (in 1987/88 and 1988/89), has promoted the production to the hit of the season.

The triumph has not gone to the heads of the troupe and

charming in the underground (subway), of all places. This musical for children was successfully filmed by Reinhard Hauff in 1987.

its author, however. After writing "Eine Linke-Geschichte" in 1980 — which is also the story of the (Berlin) left-wing and its part in his own biography — Volker Ludwig continued along the same lines he had followed with *Line 1*: From Today You Will Be Called Sara, was completed in 1988 in collaboration with Detlef Michel. The 33 scenes in the life of a Berlin Woman are based on an autobiographical account, entitled *I Wore the Yellow Star*, by Inge Deutsch, a journalist.

And, in spring 1990, the GRIPS Theatre produced a play in which Volker Ludwig and Reiner Lückner are following hot on the heels of recent history. Auf der Mauer Auf der Lauer (Lying in Wait on the Wall) recounts the fate of a girl who moves with her mother from East Berlin to West Berlin (via Prague) in September 1989 where she experiences the fall of the Wall on Nov. 9.

Paper — a magic material

By F.J. Brüder

IT is one of man's leading conveyors of culture — and yet it is treated day by day by everyone as if it were nothing: paper is patient and trivial — yet indispensable and irreplaceable. It has only been known in Germany for 600 years — ever since its manufacture was started by Ulman Stromer from Nuremberg.

He established the first paper mill in Germany in 1390, an event considered so important that there was an illustration of it in the "Schedelsche Weltchronik" of 1493.

In honour of paper and its 600th anniversary, a major art-historical exhibition is being held at Faber-Castell Castle in Stein, near Nuremberg, where it will go on tour in other cities in the Federal Republic. The organiser of the exhibition is Jürgen Franzke, from the Museum of Industrial Culture, Nuremberg.

Entitled "Zauberstoff Papier", the exhibition is being financed entirely by sponsors; the accompanying booklet — which is more detailed and informative than the actual exhibition — describes the development of paper and its diverse uses for mankind.

In the beginning, man "wrote" on rock walls, pieces of bark, papyrus or parchment — until paper came from China to Italy via the "silk route." This was taken up in the Central European trading metropolis of Nurem-

berg where rags were crushed in paper and rag mills, thus creating the first paper. This is demonstrated at the exhibition in the form of portrayals and illustrations, models and traditional equipment, and, above all, attention is drawn to the artistic and characteristic watermarks of paper — of great importance nowadays for establishing the date of the paper.

It was not until 1789 — the year of the French Revolution — in other words, four hundred years later, that the first paper machine was developed in France, to this day the archetype of mechanical paper production.

One special section of the exhibition shows what has been done on paper, this highly valuable, almost artistic material; entitled "The Art of Writing", examples of precious miniatures and manuscripts, coloured initials and Asiatic calligraphy are displayed. Naturally, writing utensils — from quill to brush, pencil to fountain pen are also dealt with.

The step from writing to printing on paper, first undertaken by Gutenberg in Mainz with his movable type, was, admittedly, only small — but of great significance. The Gutenberg Bible offers typical examples of this — as do woodcuts and engravings, and all imaginable printed-illustration techniques — up to the present-day surface printing, rotogravure and planographic printing. And the fact that

Nuremberg is cultivating its tradition is not least shown by its rotogravure industry — the largest on the continent of Europe.

The Nuremberg exhibition — somewhat sparsely appointed here and there — shows how paper can provide the means for an artistic arrangement or a thoughtlessly used accessory: from paper handkerchief to artistically-decorated napkin, from tablecloth to envelope — the spectrum of paper usage and wastage, particularly evident in the packaging industry, in everyday life is broad.

The exhibition's display of cartons and folders, boxes and carrier bags, cases and paper containers of every type clearly illustrates that life is just as valueless without paper as the scrap of paper this is being written on — or being read. One is constantly surrounded by paper at the exhibition. The latter's architecture, the booths and screens, are made of cardboard in all possible shades, colours and variations.

One section of the exhibition is devoted to an art which would not get beyond intention and idea without paper. It is here that the exhibition lives up to its claim: "Paper — a magic material" with attractive examples, and transports us into another world: Beuys merely cut a hole, the silhouette of a sheep's head, in a piece of paper and created art, Christo wrapped a statue in paper,



Woodcut showing work in a paper mill, Frankfurt, 1568.

elevating it to the status of a work of art, Ellsworth Kelly, and Kenneth Noland experimented with paper dipped in paint and then pressed.

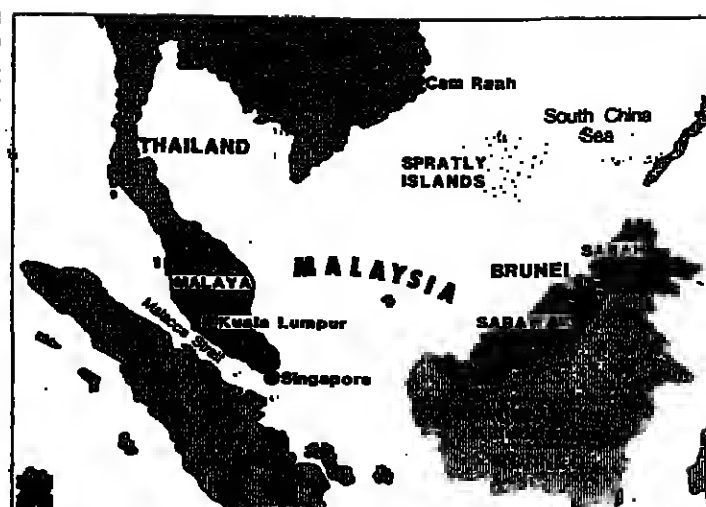
Andreas Von Weizsäcker's environment "Großstadt-Musikanten" (Big City Musicians) takes noise-producers — such as car-exhausts and radio, telephones and record players, television sets and loudspeakers — ad absurdum: they are all life-size, made of paper — and silent.

A happening with "Paper Music" — torn, shaken, crumpled and hung in the wind — is still to come, just as Miro Dopitas's featherweight paper figures are still not floating upwards in the marble stairwell of the castle, and the large paper letters in the castle grounds are still not turning around on their axis.

Last but not least, one unique feature of this exhibition is the accompanying booklet:

a printing masterpiece by Buchdruckerei W. Tümmels, it contains individual contributions on 18 different sorts of paper; a haptic as well as an optical pleasure.

There is little room for boredom at this exhibition — which is anything but "bookish"; nevertheless, anyone feeling weary can rest a while on the seating accommodation — made of paper — IN Press.



Malaysia — the land of many titles

By Kenneth L. Whitting
The Associated Press

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia — Every Malay who is anybody has a title, from the Duli Yang Maha Mulia Seri Paduka Baginda Yang Di-Pertuan Agong — that's the king — to each haji and haji who makes the Muslim pilgrimage to Mecca.

Tun, Tan Seri and Datuk are among the many hereditary or conferred titles borne by leading citizens.

Proper ways of addressing a Malay are diverse and complicated. Family names are relatively unimportant as long as the title is used correctly. Improper usage causes offense.

Some titles are gained at birth, others given as rewards for service to government or nation. To the ordinary English (mister), titles and forms of address can be confusing.

The king's title means, approximately, "This most glorious majesty who is raised most high." In English, "your majesty" is usually enough. The queen, or Seri Baginda Raja Permaisuri Agong, also is "your majesty."

Malaysia is unique in having a monarchy that rotates among royal families. Nine of the 13 states have royal families, whose leaders take turns being king of the entire nation for five years.

Passing the throne around solved sticky protocol problems when Malaysia shed colonial ties with Britain in 1957. None of the nine state rulers would have been accepted by the other eight as permanent king and Tunku Abdul Rahman, who was prime minister, divided the method of sharing glory.

Children of the state rulers usually are called Tunku or Tengku, loosely equivalent to prince or princess. Tunku Rahman, for example, is of royal descent.

Niks and Megats are those with royal blood on the mother's side. Syeds and their female counterparts, Sharifahs, claim to be directly descended from the Prophet Muhammad, from royal families of the Malay archipelago, or both.

A man honoured for distinguished service to the nation becomes a Tun and his wife a Toh Puan. The title is Malaysia's highest order of chivalry, limited to 25 living men.

When Prime Minister Dato Seri Dr. Mahathir Mahamad retires, officials say, he probably will become Tun Mahathir. He is a medical doctor and was made a Dato Seri years ago for his contributions to public life.

The non-hereditary title Tan Seri is given to the recipient of either of Malaysia's two second-highest orders of chivalry for non-royals.



Prime Minister Dato Seri Dr. Mahathir Mohamad

Datuks, and the variants Datuk Seri and Dato, are numerous and their wives are Datins. The title is non-hereditary and its basic meaning is grandfather.

In higher social circles, practically everybody is a Datuk, whether Malay, Chinese or Indian.

A common compliment is to call a man Dato before he has been so designated. Feti object, except the very modest.

The highlight of the king's official birthday, celebrated on the first Wednesday of June, is the conferment of hundreds of awards and titles. Hundreds more are issued each year by the 13 states, with Datuk in the majority.

Tuan means sir in Malay, and is used informally to address an elderly person or someone of prominence or wealth. Tuan Yang Terutama, the Malay translation of excellence, is applied to heads of diplomatic missions and the governors of the four states without royal families.

Puan, or madame, often is used to refer to married women. A single woman is called Cik.

Haji and Hajah are the titles for men and women who have made a pilgrimage, to Mecca.

In Malay usage, Bin means "son of" and Binte means "daughter of." The part of the name before it is the given name, and the part after is the name of the person's father.

Names can be as confusing as titles. The prime minister is Mahathir Mohamad, the information minister is Mohamad Rahmat and thousands of others spell the name Mohamad, Muhamat, Muhammad and even Mohd.

In 1988, the government decreed the official version of the prophet's name to be Muhammad. Those already born and named with other spellings were excused from compliance.

THOUGHT FOR THIS WEEK

My life's dream has been a perpetual nightmare — Francois Marie Arouet de Voltaire, French writer (1694-1778).

The sun also shines on the wicked — Seneca, Roman scholar (about 54 B.C. - 39 A.D.).

Art may make a suit of clothes, but nature must produce a man — David Hume, Scottish philosopher (1711-1776).

To recommend thrift to the poor is like advising a man who is starving to eat less — Oscar Wilde, Irish-born writer (1854-1900).

JTV CHANNEL 2 WEEKLY PREVIEW

Thursday Aug. 16

8:30 A Different World

Our hero is running for the student-government election. After a few hassles he decides to withdraw from the race, but upon hearing Rev. Jesse Jackson's speech he changes his mind.

9:10 Sherlock Holmes

The Devil's Foot

While Mr. Holmes is enjoying his vacation in Cornwall, he is asked to look into a difficult case by a friend who had one brother killed and one gone mad. Holmes investigation proves to be a clever one.

10:00 News in English

10:20 Movie of the Week

Jailhouse Rock

Starring: Elvis Presley and Judy Tyler
Elvis's classic film captures the legend all his nostril-flaring, pre-army glory. Elvis learns to pick a guitar in jail later becomes a big success, and with success his character changes.

Friday Aug. 17

8:30 Coach

Coach "Hayden" is being overprotective of his daughter "Kelly" and even asks her to drop her boyfriend "Stewart." Kelly fights back ferociously and announces her intention of getting married to Stewart.

9:10 Midnight Caller

Protection

Jack wants to protect Perry and his wife, 2 eyewitnesses to a crime. Perry is somewhat uncooperative and is murdered; and Jack is unable to prevent his wife from avenging her husband's murder.

10:00 News in English

10:20 No More Dying Then

The boy "John" is kidnapped; inspector



Jack Killian (Gary Cole) and Devon King (Wendy Kilbourne) in *Midnight Caller* Friday at 9:10.

"Michael" is on the case; in the course of the investigation Michael gets to like John's mother. They fail to trap the kidnapper and an 11 year old girl is found dead.

Saturday Aug. 18

8:30 Joint Account

Belinda is having problems with her boss, David arrives in the nick of time to stop Cupid from shooting his arrows at his wife.

9:100 Local Programme

9:30 Classical Music

10:00 News in English

10:20 Feature Film

Shooting Stars

Three teenagers kidnap a famous football star in Hamburg and ask for a ransom, but our star manages to escape and refuse to turn them in since they are so young and inexperienced.

Sunday Aug. 19

8:30 Hey Dad

9:10 Path of the Rain God

10:00 News in English

10:20 Hunter

Unfinished Business

Hunter and McCall are not getting along fine; it probably has something to do with the arrival of

similar method to make money.

9:10 Heart of the High Country
Ceci's daughter is back; a tragic accident kills many miners. The company goes bankrupt, Ceci's third husband dies and Ceci goes back to the farm where she finds a surprise.

10:00 News in English

10:20 Paradise

The Promise

While Ethan and his nephews lose their way in the desert, they come across a dying woman and make for a promise to get her baby to Paradise. They make good on their promise.

11:10 Allo Allo

Michelle comes up with a plan to sneak the British pilots out of the country ... with a big helium balloon.

Wednesday Aug. 22

8:30 A Family For Joe

Nick's Heart

Joe discovers that Tracy, Nick's friend, is keen on drinking, and doesn't take kindly to that. Joe tries violence and when that doesn't work, he resorts to lecturing and it works.

9:10 Documentary

All Our Children

The documentary discuss the case of six families, from different countries, expecting babies to be born and all the problems related to that. Everyday a quarter of a million babies are born around the world.

10:00 News in English

10:20 Intimate Contact

Ruth decides that it is better to fight the disease in public instead of concealing it. So she adopts a plan to fight the disease and goes out of her way to enforce her plan.

another female detective on the scene.

Monday Aug. 20

8:30 Perfect Strangers

Here Comes the Judge

Larry is accused of misusing the paper's material resources. The management forms a probing committee, and Larry promptly summons Balki as a witness to his innocence.

9:10 Murder She Wrote

Benedict Arnold Slept Here

When "Telly Adams" dies her house is swarmed with relatives looking for buried treasures valuable documents, and sure enough a murder is committed.

10:00 News in English

10:20 Mystery Movie

Murder, Smoke and Shadows

Starring: Peter Falk

Alex is a young and intelligent film producer with a promising future. An old friend of his shows up with an incriminating evidence and spoils his ride on success. Alex kills him and the murder brings in Colombo.

Tuesday Aug. 21

8:30 Golden Girls

One for the Money

Sophia is telling the rest about how, back in the 50's, she managed to gather extra money to buy a TV set. This prompts them to think of a

Macho Man

By E. Yaghi

Mansour is a hero. He is a gallant model of bravery, a fine example for neighbours, relatives and most of all his small children. He is very proud of his self-imposed outstanding record of achievement as a dutiful loving husband. Unfortunately he lacks a plaque or memorial in his name to commemorate his good deeds.

He is almost a Rambo-type person although he fails somewhat in the physical particulars as he is kind of puny. But he does have huge muscles which though invisible can be seen by cat scan, bulging inwardly somewhere in the vicinity of his little tiny brain.

What made Mansour such a hero? What made him so famous? What made him the envy of relatives and neighbours alike? What is the secret behind macho man? It is all quite simple. He knew who to pick on, who to fight with, on whom to prove his bravery. He chose his wife as his combatant. Against her, he planned strategic battles. He launched offensive attacks and was a mastermind in striking dangerous missions towards the fearful enemy, his helpless wife.

One night, in the heat of battle and peak of victory, Mansour sent a flying missile (formerly known as "shoe") in the direction of his wife's head. Said missile was successfully on target and mission accomplished. The flying missile cut deep into her forehead. Then macho man, to ensure victory, punched his mate with hard blows that he had perfected in his many years of conflict with his eternal foe.

When his wife left in defeat to her father's house, Mansour was satisfied and very pleased with himself. He threw out his small children after her, for he didn't believe in dealing with the enemy. He was really a tough guy! He strutted around his empty house in pride and confidence, eagerly awaiting the next day when he could boast of his clever war manoeuvres and how he finally ousted his enemy from his territory. The blood that congealed on the cold floor was only proof of his extreme courage in the face of danger, and to top it all, he emerged from the battle

without a scratch.

Next day, Mansour bragged with pride to anyone who would listen. He became the talk of neighbours and relatives and of course any fault in his marriage was certainly his wife's, because she was a woman and what are women anyway? Some thought they were somewhere in an undefined "Twilight Zone" between animal and human. Quite ridiculous! She had shared a house with him, had her own key (imagine), was married (how lucky), and still alive (what nerve). The very ideal Some women never appreciate their many blessings.

When one concerned relative asked macho man why his wife was evicted to her father's house he heatedly remarked, "well, she's very stubborn and when I beat her, she cusses me."

Naturally, no woman should ever cuss her husband, not even if he kills her. Such flagrant violation of the international code of marriage. Any decent woman would appreciate her husband's beatings because that meant he loved her and cared about her and beating was his way of showing his concern. After all, he wanted to make her a better person, more in the direction of perfection, following in his perfect footsteps. A good wife would thank her husband after each severe beating, dry her tears and wash away the blood and go on with the cooking and cleaning as any housemaid should.

Mansour is contemplating another marriage. It must be soon. He is bored without combat duty. He needs new action. Rumour has it that he might marry the desperate maid across the street, but she couldn't be that desperate, could she?

Macho man can still be seen strutting up and down streets. Very brave, very proud, yet waiting for a trophy or some sort of medal for his gallantry. Every once in a while he flexes his invisible inward muscles hidden in his head and he feels very macho. His wife and children remain ousted and await their final judgement.

In spite of the fact that he had to pay for broken windows and doors where he rents, Mansour doesn't care about meager material loss for such is the sacrifice of battle and this is the stuff heroes are made of.

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

Thursday, Aug. 16

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1943 — Allied forces gain complete control in Sicily in World War II.

1945 — Dutch refuse to recognise independent Indonesia Republic. Provisional French President Charles de Gaulle commutes death sentence of World War II collaborator Henri Philippe Petain to life imprisonment.

1964 — Congolese Premier Moise Tshombe appeals to five African nations to help put down rebellion in the Congo.

1974 — Turkish ceasefire that was declared on Cyprus breaks down with new thrust southward by Turkish invaders.

1976 — Earthquake that caused tidal wave on Philippine island of Mindanao leaves estimated 8,000 people dead or missing.

1985 — Auto packed with dynamite explodes outside crowded supermarket in Lebanon's Christian east Beirut, killing at least 50 people and wounding 80.

1986 — Rescuers continue evacuating by boat more than 100,000 people marooned in flood-swept southeastern

Weekend Crossword

Edited by Herb Etkenson

QUIRKY QUOTES

By Jeanne Wilson

ACROSS

1 Choices

6 Nor. Kings

11 In the distance

15 — canto

18 Abandon native

19 Finely corded fabric

21 Zola novel

22 — pro nobis

23 Driving instructor

25 Humdinger

29 Castle ruins

29 Wake-up call

28 — Seven

31 Tarzan actor

32 Resource

34 Bone, pref.

35 — noun

36 Ger. capital

38 Ornamental

39 — noun

40 Know-how

41 Petalio's place

42 — Valley, CA

43 Genstones

44 Earring supports

45 Spring no.

46 Butters up

47 Punjabi religious group member

48 Mountain range

49 With no spiritual values

50 — Actor, MI

51 Hindu music

Family connections — heaviest burden for Michael Penn

By Beth Harris
The Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Michael Penn carries the heaviest of show business burdens — family connections.

And when one of your relatives has a reputation as a hotheaded bully, the load of expectations doesn't get much lighter.

But the older brother of actors Sean and Christopher Penn has caught the public's attention with his debut album *March*, a collection of songs about failed relationships set to a folksy sound that has been compared to the Beatles.

At 30, Penn knows a thing or two about failure. He's now coming into his own after 12 years of trying to land a record deal.

After graduating from Santa Monica High School, Penn spent seven years kicking around the Los Angeles club scene with a band called Doll Congress. At the same time, his sister-in-law, Madonna, was becoming the pop sensation of the 1980s.

"We kept getting so close to getting a deal where labels were interested and giving us money to go into the studio. It never happened, and yet we still stayed together because it was enough of an encouragement to keep plugging away," he said.

"I think it was when I came to the realization that I was not completely happy with the way things were going that it finally broke up."

Penn left the band in 1987 and took keyboardist Patrick Warren with him. The pair met when Warren answered a newspaper advertisement placed by Penn.

Their collaboration peaked in Penn's four-track home studio, where he wrote the songs that eventually would end up on *March*. He turned the results over to his manager, who brought the tape to the attention of RCA.

"Unlike every other time where there was like a lot of anticipation around a tape, this time I just sort of said, 'here's some new stuff. I'm going to go back and work on some more stuff, do with it what you will.' In a couple of weeks, we started to get phone calls," he said, unfolding a tobacco-filled bandana to roll a cigarette.

"No myth," the album's first single, rose to NO. 13 on

the charts, and the video received major exposure on the Music Television Network. Two other singles, *This And That* and *Brave New World*, have received extensive airplay.

The album's title doesn't have anything to do with the month of March either, said Penn, whose casual attire of a tank top, blue jeans and cowboy boots kept him out of a restaurant's dining room during a recent interview.

"It was a realization while making the record that I have this subconscious tendency to write marches," he said.

Despite his resemblance to Sean, Madonna's pugnacious former husband, it's the family name that brings up the comparisons and inevitable jokes about his brother.

"What's been interesting to me is that a lot of the press gets frazzled by the fact that they couldn't make an issue out of it. The fact that it wasn't an issue became the issue they wrote about because they had to find some way to include it," he said.

Even talk-show host David Letterman couldn't resist. Penn sat down to chat in his second appearance on the show and immediately got zinged.

"So, how old were you when Sean threw his first punch?" Letterman teased as Penn managed a half-smile.

Penn says his family has rallied together in the face of a hostile celebrity press and public. His father, Leo, is a veteran television director and his mother, Eileen Ryan, is an actress.

He hasn't ruled out the possibility of having his father direct him in a video. And his youngest brother is singing, too.

While other family members were acting, Penn was busy practicing guitar licks in the garage with his first band — minor high.

"That's what I did as a kid. I never got into sports or anything else. I just bought records and played guitar," he said.

Penn began the summer as Tears For Fears' opening act tour of outdoor venues. This month, he'll wrap up the club tour with Lloyd Cole that brought him to Indianapolis.

He's got half the songs written for his next album, and he and Warren might head out on an acoustic tour in October.

Kurosawa's new film takes anti-nuclear stance

By Yoshiko Mori
Reuter

HAKONE, Japan — Akira Kurosawa, Japan's most internationally acclaimed director, has said he would take an anti-nuclear stance in his latest project — *Rhapsody in August* starring American actor Richard Gere.

Kurosawa, 80, told reporters in this mountain resort near Tokyo that he was halfway through production of his 29th film, to be completed this October.

It will be his first fully Japanese-financed film in 20 years.

"(It) is about a series of mysterious events that happen to an 80-year-old woman and her four grandchildren who spend their summer holidays in a remote farming village," said Kurosawa.

"The underlying theme is about the tragedy of nuclear bombs. It's been 45 years since the end of the war but radioactive

ity is still killing people off," said Kurosawa.

More than 140,000 people were killed when a U.S. plane dropped an atomic bomb on the western Japanese city of Hiroshima on Aug. 6, 1945.

A second bomb was dropped on Nagasaki three days later, killing some 70,000 people.

The film will also star Sachiko Murase, 85, who attended the news conference along with Gere.

Gere, 40-year-old star of American *Gigolo* and *An Officer and a Gentleman*, paid tribute to his director.

"Kurosawa's films are very gentle and sensitive, and feature such emotions like gratitude, forgiveness and tenderness," said Gere, who plays the old woman's nephew, a Japanese-American of mixed race.

Kurosawa's son Hisao, the producer, told reporters the film was being backed by Shochiku, one of Japan's four largest film distribution companies.

It was the first such major investment by a Japanese firm, he said.

"It's so difficult raising funds in Japan for my films," Kurosawa commented. A Shochiku representative declined to comment on the film's budget which industry sources estimate at around 1.5 billion yen (\$10 million).

Asked if he thought the Japanese audience was ready for his films again, the director replied: "I think it's still going to take some time."

Kurosawa won popular acclaim in Japan for his 1943 movie called *Sanshiro Sugata* (The Judo Saga), the first film he directed. A string of films he directed in the 1950s, beginning with *Rashomon* in 1950, earned him fame abroad.

But since his 1970 movie *Dodesakaden*, flopped, Kurosawa has had to seek financial backing outside Japan.

Kurosawa received an honorary Oscar on March 26 in



Akira Kurosawa

Los Angeles for lifetime achievement.

His films have given other directors a rich source for

plots. His *Rashomon*, was remade in the United States as *The Outrage*, *Seven Samurai* be-

came *The Magnificent Seven*, and *Yojimbo*, became the first so-called spaghetti western, *A Fistful of Dollars*.

World renowned Argentine theatre reopens

By Margaret Henry
The Associated Press

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina — Colon Theatre, the world-renowned opera house, is back in business after renovation and labour disputes kept its stage almost bare for two seasons.

When the curtain belatedly went up on Gounod's *Faust*, in mid-July, moviegoers and Colon Director Sergio Renan said with relief, "it was a kind of compensation for a lot of headaches."

Modernisation of the lighting system, repair of the machine that rotates the sets, and other renovations were stretched out by Argentina's recession and inflation that nearly reached 5,000 per cent in 1989.

A short-lived production of *Aida* was performed last year in between repairs.

The fall season normally begins in April. However, 1990 subscriptions were initially refunded and *Faust*, was pushed back. As the new opening date of July 19 drew near, opera and dance lovers

wondered if the 82-year-old theatre would be ready in time.

"Until the premiere of *Faust*, until one day before, they had a very skeptical attitude," Renan said.

The work of French composer Charles Gounod was chosen, Renan said, to give Buenos Aires' opera lovers the big production they longed for.

With special effects such as lightning and billowing smoke, the opera also gave the Colon a chance to show

off its improvements, including a computer-controlled system to move sets up, down and sideways quickly and quietly.

The 4-and-1-2-hour opening night performance drew women in furs and jewels with tuxedoed companions, watching from red-velvet box seats which cost the equivalent of about \$50.

High above, the less wealthy may not have been able to see as well. But voices and music carried clearly from the stage and orchestra pit, re-

novators having taken great pains to preserve the theatre's exceptional acoustics.

Critics gave the lead singers fair to good reviews. The real star was the theatre itself.

The 1990 season includes seven more operas, one with U.S. guest star Leona Mitchell. Ballets include *Sleeping Beauty* with Soviet dancer Ludmila Semeniaka, and Carmen with Bolshoi ballerina Maya Plisetskaya.

A few concerts and dance performances were offered during the \$5-million renovation that began in December 1987. For opera lovers, however, the Colon is only now returning to life.

"But what I would say is the theatre's essential link with the community — opera and ballet — was interrupted," said Renan.

Anna Pavlova, Arturo Toscanini, Enrico Caruso, Maria Callas, Mikhail Baryshnikov, Igor Stravinsky — the greats in ballet, opera and music of the 20th-century have performed at the Colon since its inauguration in 1908.

starting to develop the programme at the University of Hartford. I picked up the horn again in '73. It was rough, but I picked it up and started playing again."

McLean is able to juggle his role as teacher with the demands of playing.

"It's rewarding on both ends," he explained. "Certainly working with young people is rewarding, as rewarding to me as any records. I'm a survivor. They may ignore me but I'm still here. I'm in good shape, I'm working hard on my music. I'm practising hard and I hope I'll get better and better."

McLean stopped drug-taking at the end of the 1960s and turned his life around. "I didn't play at all between '70 and '72 because I had so much else I was beginning to do," he said.

"I was counselling drug addicts, and at the same time I was starting to develop the Artists' Collective. I was also

Jazz great Jackie McLean makes comeback

By John Swenson
Reuter

NEW YORK — After two decades as a forgotten figure, Jackie McLean is back on the road that took him to fame as one of jazz's greatest alto saxophonists.

McLean, 58, a teenage protégé of the legendary Charlie Parker, won acclaim in the 1950s but his career later suffered through years of neglect by the record industry and a battle against heroin addiction.

He turned his life around in the early 1970s, when he dropped out of the jazz scene

to teach at the University of Hartford in Connecticut — which meant relative obscurity for him, although many of his imitators enjoyed commercial success.

McLean's fortunes are changing, however. The saxophonist has a new album out and recently performed a critically acclaimed week-long stand at the Village Vanguard Club in New York.

"It's a strange world," said McLean. "I've been ignored, but I've managed to keep making a contribution my own way. I built an institution in Hartford called the Artists' Collective, a programme for

young people that teaches dance, music, drama and the visual arts, an inner-city cultural programme.

"I'm the chairman of the African American Music Department at the University of Hartford, a full professor. When I went to the school 20 years ago they didn't have that department, so I built that. Those two things have been very important to me. Of course I've been playing all along."

If McLean is bitter about the treatment he's received, it's tempered by the knowledge that the same thing has happened to many great jazz

musicians before him. "I don't feel bad," he said. "I'm in good company. They ignored Charlie Parker, they ignored Herbie Nichols, the last ten years of (Thelonious) Monk's life he spend in total seclusion."

McLean grew up in the sugar hill section of Harlem. By the age of 15 he was playing the sax and emulating the style of tenor players like Dexter Gordon and Lester Young. He studied with Bud Powell, jammed with Monk and substituted for Parker when the saxophonist couldn't make gigs.

Before he was 20, McLean

was playing with Miles Davis. During the 1950s and 1960s, in between recording a series of magnificent records, he lived a roller-coaster existence, struggling to survive, sometimes suffering from the effects of heroin, and harassed by police.

McLean stopped drug-taking at the end of the 1960s and turned his life around. "I didn't play at all between '70 and '72 because I had so much else I was beginning to do," he said.

"I was counselling drug addicts, and at the same time I was starting to develop the Artists' Collective. I was also

150th anniversary of Caspar David Friedrich's death

The painter who looks into himself

By Amline Haase

NOVALIS, the Romantic poet, defined the basic principle of "romanticising" as follows: "Endowing the ordinary with a loftier significance, the everyday with a semblance of mystery, the familiar with the dignity of the unknown, and the finite with features of the infinite."

Caspar David Friedrich demanded of a work of art: "Elevation of the spirit and even if not solely and exclusively — religious uplift."

There are numerous parallels between Novalis, who died at the age of 28, and Friedrich, who passed away after two strokes on May 7, 1840, aged 66. Caspar David Friedrich philosophised: "Thus prays the devout person, without saying a word, and the highest on high hears him; thus prays the feeling artist and the feeling person understands and recognises this, and even the less sensitive person has at least an inkling."

before his death. His obituary, published in the "Kunstblatt" on May 9, 1840, reads as follows: "His life was one long misfortune. The memory of his brother, who was drowned whilst skating — despite Friedrich's efforts to save him — cast a deep shadow over his whole life because he held himself responsible for his brother's death. He fled from his home (Greifswald), came here (Dresden) with no visible means of support and kept himself initially by colouring inferior views of Dresden for a picture dealer — until his own landscape paintings gradually earned him a reputation. His works were now highly regarded and much sought-after; he could have lived free from worry with his family if he had not been so excessively generous to persons in need and had not been so often imposed upon. In the best years of his life, his health began to fail and his physical debility made him inactive for years."

Friedrich revolutionised landscape painting, the traces of which lasted into the 20th century. His landscape is a symbol, a metaphor, a message; it opens onto an "inner dimension," it is the object of

contemplation, not sensual experience. "The artist should not only paint what he sees before him but also what he sees in himself."

"Close your physical eye so that you may look at your picture with your spiritual eye. Then bring to daylight what you have seen in the darkness. In that way, the image may act on whoever beholds it from the outside and, at the same time, guards its secret."

The spatial correlation is shattered in Friedrich's paintings; the construed spaces of Piero Della Francesca or Hubert Van Eyck have been destroyed; the idealistic and elevated landscapes of Claude Lorrain or Nicolas Poussin are questioned; the realism of the Dutch school is doubted.

Friedrich's technique of layer-like spaces — based on seemingly mathematical principles — enables the invention of landscape spaces which are pure atmosphere, light and air turned into colour — like William Turner and the Impressionists. But they open up onto a world of symbols which can only be discovered by directing the glance inwards.

Whereas his contemporaries and the next generation forgot him, Friedrich is

claimed by almost every art movement of the 20th century. His pictures of mist prompt sensitive beholders of painting to follow traces to Mark Rothko or Gotthard Graubner. The twin source of creativeness — mathematical and poetic transcendence — permits a diversity of interpretations and perspectives in regard to Caspar David Friedrich's painting and, at the same time, guards its secret.

Just as Novalis wanted to see language structured like "mathematical formulae," Friedrich's paintings are often subjected to a geometric pattern which allocates every object in the picture to its own place. Diagonals, ellipses, parallels provide the invented spaces with support — as one would never see them in reality. And they determine the metaphoric dimensions of the landscapes — without having to call in crosses, ruins or ravens. The ground is cut from beneath the viewer's feet.

The view opens up onto the infinite — inwardly, into infinity.

Chalk Cliffs of Rügen (1818) is a typical example of a pattern of diagonals and

semicircles which directs the glance from the dizzy heights of the cliffs into the sea below. The painting is a reminiscence of Friedrich's honeymoon in the summer of 1818, following his marriage to Caroline Bommer on 21 January. The two men in the foreground are often referred to ironically as a double portrait of Friedrich himself — as painter and husband.

His *Walker Through a Sea of Mist*, likewise dates from 1818. The figure, with his back to the viewer, is centrally situated — where all structural lines converge. The beholder must — perforce — adopt the Walker's viewpoint and is thus centrally placed in this experience of nature. The latter is spread out before him like an altar. "God is everywhere, in the finest grain of sand..." Friedrich wrote in his diary.

Monk By the Seashore (1808-10) is undoubtedly the painting in which Friedrich confronts the viewer most radically with the cosmos. One can still hear the echoes of Heinrich von Kleist's reaction to this painting (consisting of four-fifths sky and one-fifth narrow strip of beach and sea): "When you look at this



The Polar Sea (1823-24) is one of the best known works by

Romantic painter, Caspar David Friedrich.

picture you have the impression that your eyelids have been cut off." This nocturnal work is dramatic — the pale beach, the lonesome, human figure, the dark sea, the magic glow of the clouds — behind which one suspects the moon. But it is without movement, as if frozen — eerie.

The *Polar Sea* (1823-24) is indeed a frozen landscape; ice floes and the piled-up wreckage of a ship, on top of one another — against the background of a cold, blue sky

above the white frozen sea. David d'Anger, the French sculptor, was very impressed by Friedrich's paintings. He described the German artist as the "man who discovered the tragedy of landscape" and said: "Friedrich has a sombre soul. He has fully grasped the fact that landscape can portray the major crises in nature."

The painting, which bears the subtitle *The Wreck of the Hoffnung*, has often been given a political interpreta-

tion: It is an allegory, following the war of liberation against Napoleon, of the resignation resulting from the failure to establish internal political freedom — vis-a-vis the sovereign princes.

Friedrich's paintings are nocturnal plants, products of mesmerised fear, creatures born in the proximity of death. That they still prompt us to dream may well stem from the fact that they do not betray their secret — IN Press.

Scientists reverse cancer in laboratory

By Wilson Da Silva
Reuters

SYDNEY — Scientists in Australia, claiming a world breakthrough, said Thursday they had for the first time reversed the growth of cancer cells by "switching off" the gene that caused the disease.

Professor Hiroto Naora of the Australian National University in Canberra told Reuters a genetic engineering process developed by his group had dramatically reversed the growth of fibrosarcoma cancer in a laboratory culture

dish. The process worked quickly and was so thorough the cancer cells were quickly restored to a normal and benign state.

The five-person team introduced a gene close to a cancer-causing oncogene and used a biochemical trigger to stimulate it.

This provoked a battle between the two in which the quiescent gene deformed the rogue oncogene and rendered it inactive.

"(Naora) likens it to ninja turtles," said university

spokeswoman Maureen Barnett, referring to the popular "teenage mutant ninja turtles" children's television series.

"You arm the genes, send them in and they win the battle."

Naora said his five-member team had also switched off oncogenes in laboratory mice which have a genetic arrangement similar to humans, Naora said.

Further testing was under way to check whether the mice cancer cells also reverted

to normal. There was no reason why the process could not be used to control human cancers, Naora said. The first effects on cancer genes in the dish were apparent within hours, he said.

"We've got to do a lot of basic research before it can be applied to human cancer genes," he said. "But this result is very exciting for us."

The breakthrough, the result of six years of genetic tinkering, was the first time a cancer gene had been deacti-

vated and reversed in a laboratory. Positive results were first detected six months ago, Naora said.

The researchers stressed that both the trigger gene and the oncogene were artificially placed near each other.

In theory the trigger could be inserted in a naturally occurring cancer and activated, but this would be a difficult clinical process.

There are 30 known human oncogenes, and the researchers said it would be much easier for them to find

naturally occurring trigger genes than insert one near the oncogene.

The mechanism was comparable to the ecological principle that no two species can occupy the same niche in nature, Naora said.

A Japanese citizen who has worked in Australia for 20 years, Naora leads a team made up of Chinese and Australian researchers. They said the discovery was in its early stages and may not lead to clinical application for eight to 10 years.

French abortion pill challenged abroad

By Terri Jones
The Associated Press

PARIS — The French abortion pill has proved to be a safe, efficient way of terminating early pregnancy. But, for reasons that have little to do with medicine, it faces an uncertain future abroad.

The drug, known as RU-486, has been denounced by the powerful anti-abortion lobby in the United States and has not yet been endorsed by the World Health Organisation (WHO).

It has been used with 96 per cent success by more than 55,000 women, most in France but a few in 14 other countries, said Catherine Evraud, a pharmacist and spokeswoman for Roussel-Uclaf, the manufacturer.

Medical expert say RU-486, which must be used in the first seven weeks of pregnancy, has great potential for reducing illegal abortions, and complications associated with surgery. The drug is known as Mifepistone and is marketed as Mifegyne.

France approved RU-486 in 1988. Marketing is unlikely to extend beyond Britain and perhaps a few other northern European countries for at least another year.

The drug prevents fertilised eggs from implanting in the uterus, causing miscarriage. It is taken in injections of the hormone Prostaglandin, which causes uterine contractions and reduces the risk of hemorrhaging.

Abortions in France using RU-486 cost 750 francs (\$144), but 80 per cent is reimbursed under France's social insurance system.

"RU-486 has a direct toxic, poisonous effect on a developing baby," American anti-abortion leader John Wilkie said in an interview. "If it works, it kills the baby."

Wilkie is president of both the U.S. National Right to Life Committee and the International Right to Life Federation, based in Switzerland.

Approval by the World Health Organisation, a U.N. agency, is vital to the drug's acceptance in underdeveloped countries because of the role WHO is expected to play in providing the pill itself and follow-up care.

The health organisation, based in Geneva, notes cautiously that RU-486 appears to be an effective, safe approach to termination of early pregnancy and also shows potential for treating endometriosis and breast

cancer. But WHO spokesman Thomas Netter said RU-486 was among the most sensitive matters before the agency.

"If we approve it, or if we don't approve it, we'll be accused of murder," he said. "We're caught between a rock and a hard place."

Dr. Etienne-Emile Baulieu, a consultant to Roussel-Uclaf who developed RU-486, has claimed WHO had not approved the drug because it feared a cutoff of U.S. funds, which make up about one-fourth of the agency's budget.

Washington has withheld \$100 million from the U.N. Fund for Population Activities in the past five years to protest alleged forced abortions in China.

"We are studying the administration of the drug, doses, timing, cost, logistics of delivering it to local health services, the question of follow-up and how to avoid misuse. We want to look at every aspect of the implementation of RU-486 before we can advise on general use of the drug," Netter said.

A major obstacle to selling RU-486 in the United States is a threatened boycott by anti-abortion groups of products made by Hoechst AG, Roussel-Uclaf's parent company in West Germany.

If RU-486 ever reaches the American market, "we will unleash a boycott in the U.S. of any company that sells it, any subsidiary of Roussel-Uclaf and any subsidiary of Hoechst," Wilkie said. "It would be a blockbuster boycott involving tens of millions of people. The company would feel the effects immediately."

On the other hand, Ms. Evraud said, "the pro-choice side has told us, nicely, that they will boycott us if we don't sell Ru-486. Either way, we will have a boycott."

In France this month, the Association of Catholic Families condemned the "vulgar publicity orchestrated anew" about the pill, which it called "fatal for babies and, in the absence of a precise understanding, a risk for the mother."

Roussel-Uclaf predicts global acceptance in 15 years.

"Control of overpopulation is a very big problem in the future," Ms. Evraud said. "The problem of birth control will be a top priority, even if we have to proceed with abortions. It's a question of life and death for the entire planet."

Antibiotics head off urinary tract infections in women

By Brenda C. Coleman
The Associated Press

CHICAGO — Taking a tablet containing antibiotics after sex can give women who suffer frequent urinary tract infections a reprieve from that common and frustrating problem, researchers report.

Such an approach is better than taking the same antibiotics daily or three times a week to prevent infections, since continual antibiotic therapy can be costly and can promote antibiotic-resistant bacteria, the researchers reported in the Journal of the American Medical Association.

The drugs they used in a new study — Trimethoprim and Sulfamethoxazole, marketed in combination under the trade names Bactrim and Septra — seem to work regardless of how often a woman has sex, the researchers said.

The drugs also are highly effective in women who use diaphragms for contraception,

an important finding since diaphragms have been blamed for contributing to urinary tract infections in sexually active young women.

The researchers compared 16 infection-prone women who took the antibiotic after sex with 11 similar women who were given an inert drug. The women were an average of 23 years old, and each had suffered at least two urinary tract infections in the previous year.

Only two of the 16 women taking antibiotics developed infections during the 180 days of the study, compared with nine of the women taking placebos. The researchers were led by Dr. Ann Stapleton of the Department of Medicine at the University of Washington in Seattle.

The infection rate in study subjects who took antibiotics after sex — 0.3 per patient-year — compares favorably with rates reported previously for patients who took the same drugs daily or three times per week.

Artificial inner ear transplants help the stone deaf

By Hans Edzard Busemann
Nordwest Zeitung

It was wonderful, says Roswitha Liebeck, 20. "It was marvellous to hear a door closing, bells ringing and a helicopter flying overhead again."

She had been totally deaf for six months after an inflammation of the middle ear and is delighted with the artificial inner ear she has been using for several weeks after a transplant operation.

She was training to be a draughtsman but had to abandon that idea on turning deaf. She is one of one in six people who are either deaf or hard of hearing in the Federal Republic of Germany.

A special unit at Hanover medical college tries to help the totally deaf. A team of doctors led by Professor Ernst Lehnardt do transplant surgery.

The artificial device they

transplant consists of a receiver and a thin wire. During a 90-minute operation this wire is carefully inserted into the patient's shell-shaped inner ear.

It emits minute electric shocks that stimulate the auditory nerves and create the impression of noise.

The noises themselves are received via a miniature microphone and converted by a speech processor, a tiny computer, into electric impulses.

These impulses are transmitted to the artificial ear, which is located just under the skin, and with sufficient energy to relay them to the transplanted hearing aid.

After the operation patients merely register noises. They cannot identify them. It takes lengthy training under therapeutic supervision for them to be able to take part in conversations.

They have to relearn how to

understand what people say, starting with syllables and words before going on to sentences and continuous passages.

Words don't sound the same, nothing sounds the same as when heard by a healthy ear. "I was recently shocked by an unknown noise that turned out to be a pneumatic drill," Frau Liebeck says. "It sounds entirely different from how they used to do."

The Hanover clinic has so far mainly operated on patients who have not been deaf from birth. They find it easier to learn what speech is because they have been able to hear and speak in the past.

People who have been deaf from birth don't know what to listen for and can't distinguish between the spoken word, music or street noise because they don't know the difference.



A course of intensive training must follow the implantation

Transplants are fairly successful with children, as against adults. Professor Lehnardt says he has been treating children deaf from birth with growing success for the

past two years. But teaching them is extremely hard and demanding work, and the ear, nose and throat clinic is working flat out. A speech therapy centre is planned, but Profes-

sor Lehnardt is having difficulty in raising funds. Officialdom is tight-fisted. "Many politicians are adept at turning a deaf ear," he complains, "but none of them are deaf."

Experts isolate marijuana target in brain, may help drug development

NEW YORK (AP) — Scientists say they have isolated and cloned a "button" that marijuana pushes in the brain to produce its effects, an advance that may lead to new pain-killers and other medications.

Marijuana's main active ingredient attaches itself to the protein structure on the surface of brain cells, triggering alterations in mood and thinking, researchers said.

The new work suggests that the brain contains some natural substance that resembles the Marijuana ingredient, called a Cannabinoid, scientists said.

The work was presented in the latest issue of the British journal Nature by scientists from the National Institute of Mental Health in Bethesda, Maryland.

Their paper describes details of the brain-cell structure as it appears in rats, but further study showed the human structure is virtually identical, said study co-author Tom

Bonner. Marijuana is best known for producing a calm, mildly euphoric state. Time seems to slow down and users become more sensitive to sights, sounds and touch. Ideas may flow rapidly through the mind while short-term memory is suppressed.

Marijuana ingredients can also relieve pain and ease or prevent high blood pressure, epileptic convulsions, nausea, asthma and the eye disease glaucoma, scientists say.

The new work opens the door to developing derivatives that mimic those therapeutic effects while lacking undesired ones, commented Dr. Solomon Snyder, director of the Neuroscience Department at Johns Hopkins Medical School in Baltimore.

The newly cloned structure is called a receptor. Many drugs and natural substances bind to particular receptors to exert their effects on the body.

Previous studies suggest

that Cannabinoids exert a variety of effects because they bind to a variety of receptor variants, called subtypes, Snyder said.

"So if you could get a derivative that works on the therapeutic subtype but not the subtype that makes you high, then you would have an effective drug without the possibility of being a drug of abuse," he said in a telephone interview.

"Drug companies have been working on this for years, but have been unsuccessful because they didn't have any way to look at these receptor subtypes that we think exist."

Researchers should now be able to use the cloned Cannabinoid receptor to search for related subtypes, he said.

"Then a drug company can synthesise lots of chemicals and check them out on receptor A and receptor B, and then gradually sculpt a molecule that fits receptor A and

not receptor B, and then you have a super drug," he said.

Bonner said the existence of the receptor suggests that the brain naturally contains some sort of Cannabinoid-like substance.

"The receptor's not there just so that people can go out and smoke pot and get high," he said.

Finding the brain chemical would shed light on the workings of the central nervous system, and might give clues to developing new medications, he said.

In the Nature paper, scientists said they found genetic material that tells brain cells how to make the receptor. From that they could deduce the chemical makeup of the receptor.

When they inserted the genetic material into hamster ovary cells, the cells produced receptors on their surfaces. The receptors behaved as expected when exposed to Cannabinoids.

U.S. drug abuse programmes born of AIDS epidemic report success

ATLANTA (AP) — A federal effort to reach drug addicts, born out of the AIDS epidemic, has recorded success rates as high as 47 per cent in getting junkies to quit, health officials have said.

The programmes aimed at studying and changing the behavior of intravenous drug abusers and their sex partners, were launched in 1987 by 41 communities in the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA). More than 30,000 people who were not in drug abuse programmes were enrolled in the NIDA projects.

Follow-up interviews in five cities found between 16 per cent and 47 per cent "stopping all use of IV (intravenous) drugs," the Atlanta-based National Centres for Disease

Control (CDC) said in reporting the results.

"If the results at other sites prove to be consistent," it would provide "strong evidence of the considerable impact this approach could have," the CDC said.

Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) is transmitted chiefly through sexual contact or body fluids, including the sharing of blood-contaminated drug needles.

More than 38,000 of the 139,000 AIDS cases reported in the United States have occurred in IV drug users. An additional 3,000 involved sex with IV drug users, and 1,400 were children born to IV drug users or their sexual partners.

"Recruiting drug users into — and keeping them in —

well-managed, effective drug-treatment programmes can reduce risk behaviors for HIV (AIDS virus) infection," the Atlanta-based CDC said.

The National Institute on Drug Abuse projects contacted IV drug abusers through community workers, many of them former addicts themselves.

Techniques varied from city to city, but included individual and group counseling and demonstration of risk-reducing practices. The programmes encouraged users to quit their habits, and encouraged those who wouldn't quit to stop sharing drug paraphernalia and to use safer sex, including the use of condoms and reducing their number of partners.

Follow-up surveys were

conducted six months after the drug users enrolled in the programme. Results were reported from five cities: Chicago, Houston, Miami, Philadelphia and San Francisco.

Between 45 per cent and 73 per cent of the participants came back for the follow-up interviews.

The drug users were paid for their participation in the survey. Success in getting the addicts to quit ranged from 16 per cent in Chicago to 47 per cent in Miami. Quitting was reported by 17 per cent of users in San Francisco, 26 per cent in Philadelphia and 32 per cent in Houston.

In Chicago, where just 18 per cent of the participants hadn't been sharing needles with friends, the percentage rose to 47 per cent.

Why Arabs resent Western attitudes

By Ali Masarweh
Special to the Jordan Times

THE LATEST moves by Western governments — especially the United States and Britain — in sending a "multinational" force to the Gulf has created deep feelings of resentment towards those governments throughout the Arab World, according to Mohammad Kamal, a member of the Jordanian Senate and a former ambassador.

"The latest measures taken by (British Prime Minister) Margaret Thatcher have eroded British prestige in the area. It will take a long time to repair the damage done," Kamal said in an interview with British Independent Radio.

"The problem in the Gulf is a problem between Kuwait and Iraq," said Kamal, who is also

a member of the Senate's Foreign Relations Committee.

"The current conflict between the two countries should be solved within an Arab framework — without foreign intervention," he said. Kamal, who served as Jordanian ambassador to the United States between 1985 and 1988, indicated that the protection of Saudi Arabia from an Iraqi attack is not the only motive behind the deployment of foreign troops in the Gulf. Kamal, however, declined to elaborate on other possible motives.

"Saddam Hussein has no intention of taking Saudi Arabia and has stated this repeatedly," Kamal said.

Referring to world reactions of Iraq's take-over of Kuwait, Kamal said they were "out of proportion to the problem itself." The Senator added that by applying the means of quiet

diplomacy, the West could have obtained the necessary assurances and guarantees from Iraq regarding the continued flow of oil at all times and at a reasonable price.

"Demonstrations in Jordan and other Arab countries in support of Iraq," represented the "resentment and frustration of the Arab man-in-the-street towards the United States and Western moves in the Gulf," he said.

"After the occupation of Arab lands in 1967 and even after the annexation of the Golan Heights, no move was made by either Britain, the U.S. or the international community to implement U.N. Security Council Resolution 242," Kamal pointed out. "It angers (Arab) people to see foreign fleets and troops moving into the Gulf within a week

of the adoption of Security Council resolution 661 while resolution 242 is still waiting to be implemented, 23 years after it was adopted," Senator Kamal said.

Citing the possible effects of the demonstrations on Arab political decision and policy, making the former ambassador said Arab leaders should respect public opinion and take it into consideration. "Nationalist sentiments are running high on the streets of Damascus and even in Saudi Arabia," he said. "The feeling in the streets cannot be ignored by Arab leaders," he maintained. Asked about the peoples' feelings on the practices of the Arab states in the Gulf, Kamal said that the people were unhappy to see their wealth being squandered. "There are millions of Arabs



Mohammad Kamal
Living in poverty while Arab money is being invested out with the unleashing of a "propaganda machine" on the Arab World.

side the Arab World," he said. While Kamal doubted the truth of the allegations that Iraq had any ambitions in Saudi Arabia, he conceded that Iraq possibly did not explain its position to the outside world sufficiently. He said that "Saddam Hussein should have given the necessary assurances to the Americans and the British regarding the continuation of the flow of oil."

"The extremely negative stand of the Western press in covering the current Gulf crisis has contributed in inflating the conflict artificially. 'You (the Western media) say you are impartial, that you are objective, but it is fairly obvious that the Western media is totally one-sided,' Kamal said, likening the Western media coverage of the current Gulf crisis

East European influx puts Venice in dilemma

By Jill Serjeant
Reuters

VENICE — They sleep on the coach on the long overnight drive from the east. They eat the sandwiches they brought from home on the steps of St. Mark's Square and drink free from Venice's fountains.

They are the new tourists from Eastern Europe, "freed" from travel restrictions and eager to see at first hand the famed canal city, whose richly-decorated palaces, churches and singing gondoliers have been denied them for decades.

But the tens of thousands who descend on Venice on cheap day trips are often too poor to buy even a Cappuccino, let alone take a ride on a gondola, and their arrival has forced the city council to take a new look at Venice's age-old tourist dilemma.

No sooner had the Italian government withdrawn Venice as a candidate to host the Expo 2000 World Fair, fearing the city would be suffocated by extra tourists, than the mass influx of Czechoslovaks, Hungarians and East Germans began.

One Saturday morning in June, 1,200 coaches arrived at the lagoon's terminal with the mainland, spilling out 60,000 East European day trippers — a number little short of Venice's resident population.

Veniceans acknowledge that the East Europeans are quiet, clean up their litter and are persistent in their search for Venice's few and far between public lavatories.

"These tourists are very dignified and very serious," said Mayor Ugo Bergamo.

But the narrow alleys and little bridges, already overloaded with weekend visitors, creaked under the strain as the influx was repeated each successive Saturday and Sunday.

Veniceans complained they could hardly get through the crush to do their shopping while hotel and restaurant owners wrung their hands in despair as the visitors read their price lists and walked on.

The city went up once again for the closure of the road bridge to the mainland and for a 25,000 daily maximum ceiling to be put on tourist arrivals.

Venice hoteliers association President Piermario Beggato came up with the radical suggestion of issuing a restricted number of coach operators in the east with a secret password. Coaches without the magic "open sesame" would be turned away.

The city council however opted for a more diplomatic solution, pleading with embassies in Prague, Budapest and Berlin to cut down the weekend flow of coaches.

Mayor Bergamo said last week this had brought a welcome drop in arrivals: to about 100 coaches or 3,000 tourists a day.

But hostilities appeared to have broken out in early August, when the council introduced fines on picnickers in St. Mark's

Square and erected barriers to prevent people sitting on the steps as part of a new campaign to restore "order and decorum."

Sitting on pavements, bathing tired feet in the canals, and sunbathing in the squares were all banned under the new order, which included the threat of jail terms of up to five years for serious offenders.

"If they pay for my lunch, I'll throw my sandwich away," one young East German told police trying to move picnickers out of St. Mark's Square last week.

Nearby in Florian's cafe, rich Americans and Japanese were paying about 17,000 lire each \$8 for a toasted sandwich and coffee, accompanied by classical music from the resident orchestra.

Bergamo said the crackdown was not intended to penalise the poverty-stricken tourists from the east but to make all visitors "understand that Venice should be respected."

He said the council was also planning to improve its services to meet the needs of tourists with little to spend.

"The culture and history of Venice is something that should be available and guaranteed to everyone," he told Reuters.

"These are poor tourists. They have problems and should be welcomed with a better organisation. We are planning ways in which to welcome them in a warmer and more civilised manner."

He said the council was considering opening its museums and palaces free of charge for one day a week, trying to recruit volunteer tour guides and planning to increase the number of public lavatories and washrooms.

It has also announced plans to create a picnic area in a park around the corner from St. Mark's and the pink 12th-century Doge's Palace. But the park will not be ready until next spring and even then stays will be limited to 40 minutes.

"Venice is a civilised city which wants to cope with this problem. We would like to be a bridge between East and West, just as Venice was in the days of its sea-going empire," Bergamo said.

But until the council implements its plans, the day trippers from the East are seen as problem tourists who contribute little to the city's coffers and a lot to its overcrowded rubbish bins.

'King's mission crucial'

(Continued from page 1)

People in the streets of Baghdad, Kuwait or Amman, for that matter or anywhere in the Middle East, want peace.

Q: How would you characterise the message that (the King) is bringing from President Saddam Hussein as to President Bush? What's in it?

A: Well, I think at this moment that you have two heads of state meeting at a really a crucial moment for me to speculate or divide. I think what's in it is basically a great deal of concern on the part of His Majesty the King, who, from the very beginning, has striven for a diplomatic solution for a dialogue.

Q: The point of significance now, as to supplies, moving from Aqaba to Jordan into Iraq and the president has warned of a blockade of Aqaba. Will Jordan shut down that flow of goods without a blockade and apply the U.N. sanction?

A: Well, as I said every country, including Turkey for example, if there is a flight sanction, has found compensation. I hope that discussion between His Majesty and President Bush is a broad ranging political

discussion (and) will put the whole issue of sanctions and indeed how we are not talking of sanctions but embargo and blockade and interdiction. This package has moved so quickly — it was not even called for by U.N. Security Council — (and) is currently a subject of great concern to the secretary general himself. So I think that we need to deescalate the situation and I hope that Jordan, which is the only party that can talk to all parties concerned, can help in that endeavor.

Q: That's only one aspect of the sanction's problem. We have half of our work force in the Gulf, we have excellent relations with all the Gulf countries. Frankly, we want to keep it that way. If the sanctions mean shutting down all business transactions... I heard the U.S. is losing \$20 million every day. We're losing several million dollars a day. This is affecting small people. Remittances are just not coming through. Relationship is one side of it. As far as Article 50 of the U.N. Charter states, we have the right to consult with the secretary general of the U.N. within 30 days to seek compensation of sanctions that are to be applied.

King meets Bush today

(Continued from page 1)

be discussed between the King and Bush is the American-led campaign to enforce international sanctions and an embargo on Iraq. Bush said Tuesday that he would seek to convince the King to apply sanctions on Iraq. The King, who has said that Jordan respects the U.N. Charter, said the resolutions adopted by the world body, is expected to outline the Kingdom's position on the issue to Bush, officials said.

In Washington, the State Department said the United States was ready to help Jordan and other small countries endure the financial hardship if they joined an embargo on Iraq.

Bush, at a White House news conference Tuesday, stressed the close ties between the United States and Jordan but threatened to crack down on shipments through its only port, Aqaba, if they were intended for Iraq.

Asked if he might order U.S. naval vessels to "interdict" Iraqi-bound commerce, Bush replied: "I think at some point it might well be, if it's a hole through which commerce flows."

"I would certainly think that Aqaba should be closed to Iraqi commerce," said Bush, who had interrupted his vacation to return briefly to Washington for meetings on the crisis.

Bush, however, said: "We've always been a friend of Jordan. We've helped them in the past; we'd help them in the future if they fulfil their obligation here."

New factors in play

(Continued from page 1)

changes in the psyche of the people in the region."

Khouri said he doubted whether Iraq would make any moves on the ground in the event of the U.S. gaining the upper hand in the present stand-off in the Gulf. "True, Iran would not like American or Western control of the oil fields in the area and would prefer to have an independent Iraq as its neighbour," he said. But, he added, "it is too premature to predict anything."

"I guess Iran will weigh the situation very carefully, particularly its own interests, before doing anything," he said.

Khouri, however, foresees a major impact of the Iranian-Iraqi rapprochement on the international oil market and the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC). "Iran and Iraq have been cooperating within OPEC for some time now," he noted. "This cooperation could increase and its effects will be very visible on the oil market," he said.

While Dr. Keilani argued that "perhaps Iraq could even hope for Iran coming to its rescue" to beat the international embargo and sanctions, at least in terms of food and medicines, in light of their 1,280-kilometre border, Khouri thinks Iran will put its interests first before contributing to any Iraqi efforts to cushion the impact of the U.S.-led campaign against Baghdad.

Dr. Anani agrees with

Khouri. "It all depends on the foreign policy objectives of Iran," he said. "If their objective is to consolidate the regional front in the long-term, they will cooperate with the Iraqis, but if they think normalisation of relations with the Iraqis is a long-term process, then they might grab the opportunity to serve their short-term interests."

Dr. Hamarneh believes that Iran's need to and interest in gaining increased revenues through boosted oil production to make up for the loss of Iraqi and Kuwaiti oil from the market could also be very crucial in determining the future state of relationship between Tehran

and Baghdad.

In the short term, Dr. Keilani said, "Saddam has sent a message to everyone that he is no longer an easy target for anyone, and that his Iranian flanks are no longer vulnerable."

There is a majority opinion among Jordanian analysts that the latest twist in the course of events in the Middle East could be a stabilising factor and will have a "cooling effect" on rising tensions and fears of a war since, as Dr. Keilani put it, "the Americans and others will have to rethink their strategies now that there is a possibility that they might have to take on Iran in the bargain."

60,000 U.S. troops in Gulf

(Continued from page 1)

Bush also accused Iraq's troops of plundering Kuwait and committing atrocities in the country. "Saddam Hussein would have us believe that his unprovoked invasion of a friendly Arab Nation is a struggle between Arabs and Americans," Bush said.

"That is clearly false. It is Saddam who fled to his Arab neighbours. It is Saddam who invaded an Arab state. It is Saddam who now threatens the Arab Nation," Bush said.

Bush, praising the Defence Department's swift response to the crisis, said: "We, by contrast, seek to assist our Arab friends in their hour of need."

Bush indicated the commit-

ment of U.S. troops to Saudi Arabia was open-ended, saying, "I don't know about a period of years, but certainly we're going to be there long enough to get the job done."

The president sought to minimise the danger facing the 3,500 or so Americans trapped in Kuwait and Iraq. He said their status was that of "inconvenienced people who want to get out... I hope that it doesn't become more than that. I have no reason to think at this juncture that it will."

An unidentified Iraqi official told ABC news Tuesday that Americans in Iraq and Kuwait are "restricted" and would not be free to leave until the crisis has ended.

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U.S., Yugoslavia and Puerto Rico head for world basketball semis

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP) — Defending champion United States rallied from a big deficit while Yugoslavia and Puerto Rico coasted to easy victories Tuesday in the World Cup Basketball Championship. All three seemed assured of advancing to the semifinals.

Brazil, Australia and Argentina were knocked out by consecutive losses in the three-game quarterfinal round. Brazil was defeated by Greece, 103-88; Australia by the United States, 79-78; and Argentina by Puerto Rico, 92-76.

Semifinals are set for Friday. The final is Sunday.

Australia's loss was a heart-breaker. Led by Andrew Gaze's outside shooting and Luc Longley's rebounding, the team stretched a four-point halftime lead to 13 points with only seven minutes to go in the game.

But the United States scored 22 of the next 30 points, taking its

first and only lead of the second half when Lee Mayberry stole the ball and scored on a layup with just over one minute remaining. The United States dribbled out the clock.

"We just gave the game away," Australia coach Adrian Hurley said. "There were two teams out there. One kept its composure to the end... this would have been our greatest moment. But the other side was too good."

U.S. coach Mike Krzyzewski acknowledged his inconsistent team, undefeated in five games, escaped by the slimmest of margins.

"Anytime you win a game like that, you're very lucky," he said. "The team blew a 22-point lead against Argentina the night before, but held on to win, 104-100. The defending champions needed overtime to subdue a stubborn Greek team in the preliminary round last week."

Victory was diminished by the flare-up of Billy Owens' back injury. The starting forward who averaged 20 points and 10 rebounds during the qualifying round played 55 seconds and left the game. He may not take part in the match against Puerto Rico.

Yugoslavia virtually clinched the semifinals on the shooting and ball-handling skills of Toni Kukoc. The top draft pick of the Chicago Bulls in the U.S.-National Basketball Association tallied 21 points, five rebounds and four steals.

"Yugoslavia was much better than us today," said Alexander Gomelski, the former Soviet basketball coach who led his team to the gold medal at the Seoul Olympics in 1988.

Yugoslav coach Dusan Ivkovic said he thought the Soviets still may claim one of four semifinals spots. "We shouldn't fool ourselves... that we saw the real

Soviet team today. The Soviet team remains one of the best in the world," he said.

Brazil, a perennial world power, was seeded among the top four teams at the start of last week's three-game qualifying round. It swamped its first two opponents, and lost by a single point to Australia in the last game of the qualifying round last week.

Then it fell apart, losing to Yugoslavia Monday, 105-86, and then being run off the floor by Greece.

"We just didn't play very well. I don't know why," said reserve forward Luiz Felipe.

A big reason was Pano Giannakis, the sharpshooter and playmaker who finished with 35 points, 14 assists and three steals. Every time Brazil closed to within a few points, it seemed, Giannakis would sink a three-pointer or tally a basket or assist on a fast break.

Goodwill Games sponsor loses \$44 m

ATLANTA (AP) — Turner Broadcasting System Inc., sponsor of the Goodwill Games, said Tuesday it lost \$44 million on the games, but a spokeswoman said it was too early to write the games' obituary.

TBS Chairman Ted Turner said during the recent Goodwill Games, in Seattle that the quadrennial international sporting event could lose \$26 million, twice what had been projected. That fueled speculation that the games, which Turner developed in 1985 to foster better relations between nations, might be doomed.

The first Goodwill Games, in 1986, lost \$26 million.

"We've been saying all along that the board (of directors) will review the games at a future date, and will make a decision (on whether to cancel the games)," said Kithie Riggall, a TBS spokeswoman.

"They will review these numbers as well as the games themselves as to the value to the cable (television)

industry, the gains it made with the athletic community. There are several things to look at," she said.

Turner said earlier this month he expected the board to decide by the end of September whether to continue TBS' involvement in the Goodwill Games.

TBS lost \$31 million on the games in the second quarter, wrote off \$3 million in the first quarter and took a \$10 million loss related to the event in 1989.

The loss on the Goodwill Games "masked the better-than-planned performance of our ongoing operations," Turner said in a statement.

The company posted a total second quarter loss of \$8.3 million.

The loss on the games included a failure to deliver audience level guarantees to advertisers who bought advertising time on the TBS Superstation cable television network, which televised the games. Turner said it would provide compensatory advertising

time for future programming on its other cable TV networks, which include the Cable News Network (CNN).

For the second quarter overall, the \$8.3 million loss compared to earnings of \$5.5 million in the same period last year.

The Goodwill Games were Turner's 1986 brainchild to bring Soviet and U.S. Olympic-class athletes together after both nations led Olympic boycotts in 1980 and 1984. The United States led the 1980 boycott of the Moscow summer games after the Soviets invaded Afghanistan, and the Soviets retaliated by leading a boycott of the 1984 Los Angeles summer games.

The Goodwill Games bring together the top elite individuals or teams from around the world every four years in a competition sanctioned by the International Olympic Committee. The games alternate between the United States and Soviet Union, with both countries guaranteed positions in the meets.

Navratilova overpowers Graham in Los Angeles tournament

MANHATTAN BEACH, California (AP) — Top-seeded Martina Navratilova, playing for the first time since injuring her left Achilles tendon last week, overpowered Debbie Graham 6-1, 6-2 in a second-round match of the \$350,000 Virginia Slims of Los Angeles Women's Tennis Tournament.

Navratilova was hurt while practicing for a tennis tournament in San Diego and was forced to withdraw. She showed no ill effects of the injury in beating Graham, who won the U.S. collegiate singles championship while playing for Stanford in May.

The match was the first for Navratilova since she won the singles championship at Wimbledon in June.

No. 3 seed Gabriela Sabatini of Argentina swept past Halle Cioffi of the United States, 6-2, 6-0, while fourth seed Zina Garrison of the U.S. downed Argentina's Bettina Fulco 6-0, 6-4.

In other second-round action at the Manhattan Country Club Tuesday, fifth-seeded Katerina Maleeva of Bulgaria overpowered Dinky Van Rensburg 6-1, 6-1; sixth-seeded Mary Jo Fernandez eliminated Claudine Toia of New Zealand 6-2, 6-2; ninth-seeded Amy Frazier beat Tami Whittinger 7-5, 6-3; and Stephanie Rehe upset 15th-seeded Gigi Fernandez 6-3, 6-3.

In first-round matches Tuesday, 11th-seeded Laura Gildemeister of Peru overpowered Alycia May 6-0, 6-1; Peanut Louie-Harper upset 12th-seeded Gretchen Magers 6-4, 6-1; Anne Smith eliminated Donna Faber 6-2, 6-2; Renata Baranski of Poland ousted Elise Burgin 6-3, 6-2; Kathy Rinaldi topped Nana Miyagi of Japan, 6-3, 7-6; Amanda Coetzer of South Africa, beat Cecilia Dahlman of Sweden 6-3, 6-1; Rosalyn Fairbank-Nideffer, outlasted Monique Javer 7-6, 3-6, 7-6; and Andrea Keller advanced when Patty Fendick pulled a leg muscle in the second game of the second set. Keller had won the first set 6-3.

Navratilova, ranked second in the world behind Steffi Graf of West Germany, needed only 51 minutes to eliminate Graham.

Beckenbauer still eager for U.S. World Cup post

BONN (R) — Franz Beckenbauer, who coached West Germany to their World Cup triumph last month, hinted again Wednesday that he was eager to be involved in the staging of the 1994 finals in the United States.

Calling the U.S. an "ideal" country for the World Cup, Beckenbauer told the West German magazine Sports: "The infrastructure is right, the stadiums are wonderful — everything is perfect."

Beckenbauer, who stepped down as West German coach after the Italy finals, was reported last week as saying he had reached agreement to work for the U.S. Soccer Federation (USFF) and the 1994 World Cup. The USFF denied the deal.

But the second declaration of firm interest in a week from the 44-year-old "Kaiser," who normally keeps his plans under wraps, increased speculation that he could be close to signing up for the Americans, probably as technical director.

The link-up, coming at a time when the U.S. is increasingly being questioned as a World Cup venue, could be a fruitful one.

Although soccer enjoys some success as a participant sport among U.S. youth, it has failed to make any mark with the country's

all-important television-viewing public.

And the Americans, who unnerved the soccer world last month by suggesting some cup games might be played indoors, know they could fend off criticism by engaging one of the biggest names in the history of the game.

Beckenbauer met key American sports figures on a trip to the U.S. two weeks ago. He said he believed the 1994 finals could succeed if they had the right organizers.

"To organize the World Cup you need a consortium," he told the magazine. "You need people like Peter Ueberroth, who organized the Olympic Games in Los Angeles. You need people like Henry Kissinger, who has connections."

"You can't have anything better than working with these people. The financial success would be secured."

Earlier this month the USFF elected Alan Rotherberg, the architect of the successful soccer tournament at the Los Angeles Games, as its new head.

Rotherberg's candidacy had been backed by the International Football Federation (FIFA), which had been concerned about the slow pace of preparations for the 1994 competition.

Malivai upsets Lendl

NEW HAVEN, Connecticut (AP) — No. 1 seed Ivan Lendl, rusty from a post-Wimbledon layoff, was upset by unseeded Malivai Washington Tuesday in the second round of the Volvo International Tennis Tournament.

Washington, who left the University of Michigan last year to turn professional, took only 73 minutes to beat Lendl 6-2, 6-3.

Washington had not previously beaten a player ranked in the top 25 of the Association of Tennis Professionals tour. But Washington said he wasn't intimidated going against Lendl on Centre Court before a crowd of 11,000.

"You can't go out and say, 'I'm playing Ivan Lendl, winner of so many tournaments.' You've just got to say you're playing a guy on the other side of the net," he said.

Washington, who lost his last three tournaments in the first round, is ranked 103rd in the world rankings. Lendl is second behind Stefan Edberg, who took

over the top spot last week.

Lendl last played in Wimbledon, when he lost to Edberg in the semifinals.

"I didn't practice lately, and today just confirmed it," he said. "I didn't feel comfortable with my game at any stage."

Lendl said he could not give an appraisal of Washington's performance because, "I didn't push him."

Washington said the match would have been a lot tougher if Lendl had been in top form, but also said he wasn't playing his best.

In a first-round match earlier Tuesday, unseeded Jim Pugh, a top doubles player who has been struggling with a singles game, knocked off 10th-seeded Petr Korda of Czechoslovakia 3-6, 6-4, 6-1.

Pugh, runner-up to Brad Gilbert at last year's Volvo International, said he had trouble concentrating in the first set, but settled down midway through the second.

Becker, Agassi advance in U.S. hardcourt tournament

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Top-seeded Boris Becker and second-seeded Andre Agassi had little trouble advancing to the third round of the U.S. Men's Hardcourt Tennis Championships.

Becker, the West German ranked third in the world, relied on his trademark serve and solid groundstrokes to defeat Brian Garrow of the United States 6-2, 6-4 in just over an hour.

Agassi needed 57 minutes to dispatch fellow American Robert Seguso 6-2, 6-3.

"It was a good match for me," Becker said. "Usually, it is more difficult in the first round, but I had a good start and played two good sets."

Becker said the newly renovated courts at the Indianapolis Sports Centre influenced his style of play.

"It is much slower," said Becker, who won the U.S. hardcourt tournament two years ago. "The ball bounces higher and it is a bit rough. You have to play back more."

In the opening set, both players held serve through the first four games, but Becker gained the advantage by breaking at love in the fifth game after Garrow double-faulted. Becker then held, broke again and took the set on a forehand winner that dipped under Garrow.

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & YANNA KIRSCH
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ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠ A84 ♠ K6 ♦ 87632 ♠ A93
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
Pass Pass 1 ♠ Pass

What do you bid now?
A.—You have a balanced hand of 11 points, which includes a scraggly five-card minor. There is no point in bidding two diamonds on that suit. By a passed hand, a jump to two no trump describes your hand exactly.

Q.2—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ 74 ♠ AQ10762 ♦ AS ♠ K104
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass

What do you bid now?
A.—It is tempting to rebid one no trump with your stoppers in the unbid suits. Indeed, that would have been our choice had the red suits been reversed. With a six-card major, however, we clearly prefer rebidding two hearts.

Q.3—East-West vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ 6 ♠ AQ3 ♦ AK6 ♠ 1098652
Your right-hand opponent opens the bidding with a weak two hearts. What action do you take?

A.—Your club suit is not worthy of a three-level overall, but consider the possibilities if you should pass and partner balances with a double. That action leaves you with an insurmountable problem, so we would opt for the overall of three clubs, now.

Q.4—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ 73 ♠ 94 ♦ AJ9642 ♠ Q102
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ 1 ♠ ?

What action do you take?
A.—We feel this hand is just good enough for a competitive bid of two diamonds. If partner opened with a convenient club, he surely has at least a doubleton diamond. And if he is short in diamonds, you have some safety in your club fit.

Q.5—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠ 64 ♠ 9865 ♦ Q63 ♠ Q982
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ 1 ♠ ?

What action do you take?
A.—We seldom recommend passing when you have four-card support for partner's major-suit opening, but this hand is the exception. With soft values and a balanced hand, you could be inviting disaster if you raise freely. Pass, and see what happens.

Q.6—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠ 64 ♠ 9865 ♦ AK6 ♠ K982
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ 1 ♠ ?

What do you bid now?
A.—Now that you have changed the queens into kings, your hand becomes worth a raise. You have fair defense and better offense, so you needn't fear pushing the opponents into game or causing partner to get overly ambitious. Bid two hearts.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY AUGUST 16, 1990

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: One of your best days to look into whatever you do not understand to get to the truth of the situation and to attend to whatever obligations are outstanding in your life.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Seek out those friends and acquaintances who are very up to date in their views and expressions and let them direct you how to obtain your desires.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Consider whatever you want to do to bring your career and credit conditions up to date and then make plans at once to implement these goals.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) A comparative newcomer in your life has the answers that will resolve some doubt in your mind how you can push ahead in a new undertaking.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Consider well what you can do to bring your present business arrangements up to date so they can be handled with greater ease.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) You can make your mark in the world in some unusual manner now so forget your being tied down to the outmoded and bring yourself up to date.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Now is the day for you to search out from every possible media for the answers by which

you can get far more of a constructive nature done at your usual activities.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Depart from the usual and find some pleasures and amusements that can take away any burdens and bring you a feeling of release and happiness.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Your house needs more zip and zest in it and less fixed modes of procedure and this is a splendid day to loose these advanced improvements.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Consider all persons with whom you have communications or messages to send to and put some original to your correspondence to impress them.

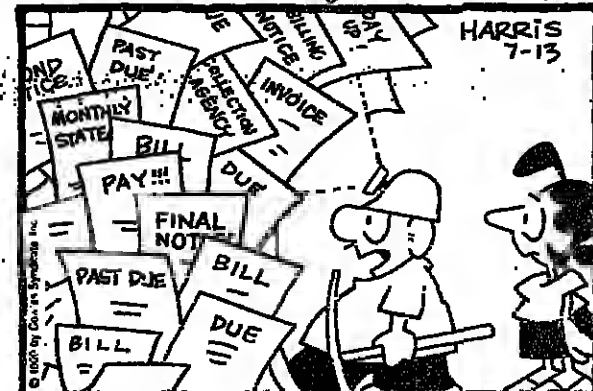
CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Do those things which will enhance the value and appearance of whatever property you are possessed and to make your future more secure.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) A great day to just be yourself and do the things that appeal to you the most after getting yourself dolled up in your best finery.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Whatever private aspirations you have now can be made to operate in your behalf by taking a positive attitude where they are concerned.

THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



"I'm going in to look for the gas bill. If I'm not back in four hours, send help."

JUMBLE.

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arpaud and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

SEGIN
LAKBY
CLOMPY
ZARWID



IN CONNECTION WITH NUDISTS, SHOULD ONE HAVE TO TAKE THIS INTO CONSIDERATION?

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

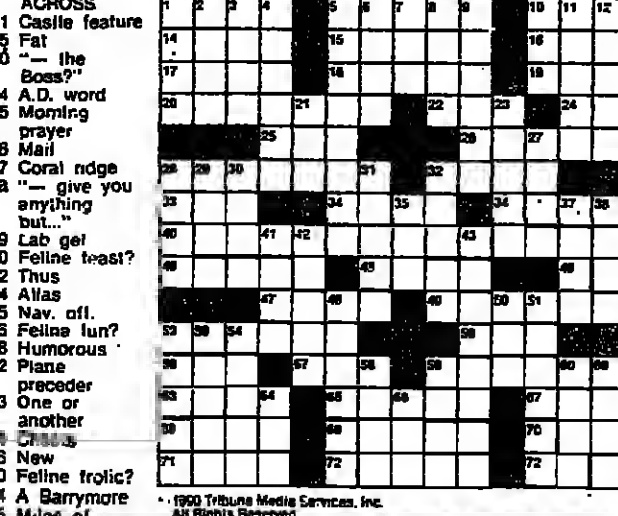
ANSWER: THEY "WERE" THAT "WERE"

Yesterday's Jumbles: MOTIF LINGO FUMBLE 'ADRIFF

Answer: How the farmer turned sailor continued to make his living—OFF THE LAND

THE Daily Crossword

by Jeanné Wilson



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1 Across	Castle feature	14 Down	Actor Peter and family	27 Across	Carried away	40 Down	Gr. letter
2 Across	— the	15 Down	Family	28 Across	Harden	41 Down	Cafe list
3 Across	A.D. word	16 Down	Believe in?	29 Across	(hurry)	42 Down	Small room
4 Across	Prayer	17 Down	Ben	30 Across	Fable	43 Down	60 of March
5 Across	Mail	18 Down	Placid	31 Across	Spoils	44 Down	Lease
6 Across	Coral ridge	19 Down	Uncle	32 Across	Houston pro	45 Down	Polka
7 Across	Anything but...	20 Down	Feline feast?	33 Across	Chemical ending	46 Down	Network
8 Across	Lab gel	21 Down	Nav. off.	34 Across	31 Spies	47 Down	And not
9 Across	Feeling?	22 Down	Humorous	35 Across	32 Chemical ending		
10 Across	Plane	23 Down	Preceder	36 Across	33 Chemical ending		
11 Across	One or another	24 Down	33 One or another	37 Across	34 Chemical ending		
12 Across	34 Chemical ending	25 Down	34 Chemical ending	38 Across	35 Chemical ending		
13 Across	35 Chemical ending	26 Down	35 Chemical ending	39 Across	36 Chemical ending		
14 Across	36 Chemical ending	27 Down	36 Chemical ending	40 Across	37 Chemical ending		
15 Across	37 Chemical ending	28 Down	37 Chemical ending	41 Across	38 Chemical ending		
16 Across	38 Chemical ending	29 Down	38 Chemical ending	42 Across	39 Chemical ending		
17 Across	39 Chemical ending	30 Down	39 Chemical ending	43 Across	40 Chemical ending		
18 Across	40 Chemical ending	31 Down	40 Chemical ending	44 Across	41 Chemical ending		
19 Across	41 Chemical ending	32 Down	41 Chemical ending				
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Prestige, wealth attract foreign stars to Italy

MILAN (AP) — The prestige of the Italian First Division, fuelled by million-dollar salaries offered in recent years, has attracted an even larger contingent of foreign stars into the highest soccer league show in the world.

Already known for such stars as Argentina's Diego Maradona (Napoli), Dutchmen Ruud Gullit and Marco Van Basten (both A.C. Milan), and Brazilians Carlos Dunga (Fiorentina) and Antonio Careca (Napoli), the Italian First Division will add stars from this past summer's World Cup as well as others virtually unknown to Italian fans.

But when the season opens on Sept. 9, all of them will bid to match the fame, and hopefully the pay, earned by the Maradonnas and Gullits.

Maradona and Gullit have been among the most expensive transfers in Italy's soccer history and each make about \$2 million a year. The yearly salaries of Van Basten, Dunga and Careca range between \$1.2 to \$1.6 million.

Karlheinz Riedle and Thomas Haessler, who helped West Germany win the 1990 World Cup, are two of the highest paid new-

comers, joining other German stars in Italy.

Internazionale of Milan will field the West German trio of Jurgen Klinsmann, Lothar Matthaus and Andreas Brehme while veteran striker Rody Voelker and midfielder Thomas Berthold have been added to Roma's lineup.

All helped Germany defeat Argentina 1-0 in the lackluster World Cup final in Rome on July 8.

The transfer of 25-year-old striker Riedle from Werder Bremen of the Bundesliga cost Lazio of Rome about \$10 million.

Haessler moved to Juventus of Turin from Cologne, also of the Bundesliga, on a transfer fee of nearly \$9 million.

Juventus, which is owned by the Agnelli family of auto tycoons, invested some \$40 million to strengthen the team for the next season and revive its past glory following some disappointing years.

The Turin club, the defending UEFA Cup champion which will play in the European Cup Winners' Cup this season, signed

Brazilian defender Julio Cesar in addition to Haessler and bought Italian star forward Roberto Baggio from Fiorentina at an all-time record fee of \$15 million.

Baggio's costly transfer rejoins him with Salvatore "Toto" Schillaci, recreating the front line that led Italy to third place in the World Cup.

Iraq threatens OPEC if it raises oil output

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — Iraq Tuesday threatened to retaliate against Venezuela and other OPEC nations if they increase their oil output to replace the oil supplies from Iraq and Kuwait.

Iraq's ambassador to Venezuela, Majid A. Al Samarra'i, announced that Iraq viewed raising oil production "an act against the Iraqi government," adding that "those who take action against us will suffer damage."

He did not say what sort of retaliation Iraq had in mind.

Samarra'i spoke at a news conference and said he was relaying a message from his government.

He portrayed Washington's dispatch of U.S. troops to the Middle East as an American plot to destroy the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and to seize control of Middle East oil itself.

The envoy said Iraq was acting in the interests of OPEC, which was expected to meet in emergency session this week.

"Any attempt by any member OPEC nation to increase its production quota will mean support of the United States plan, and will bring harm to all," Samarra'i said.

He asked OPEC nations to demonstrate "solidarity" against the Bush administration by refusing to raise production.

"The United States doesn't want to defend the people of Kuwait. Iraq is doing it," he said.

There are 13 nations in OPEC, including Iraq and Kuwait, and the organisation thus far has made no move to suspend either nation from the group.

OPEC oil ministers are to meet at a time and place not yet announced to decide what course OPEC should take in regard to millions of barrels in blocked Iraq-Kuwait oil production. Whether Iraq and Kuwait will take part was not known.

Iraq and Kuwait together account for 20 per cent of the world's oil reserves.

Sudan Islamises banking

KHARTOUM (AP) — The government Tuesday abolished all forms of interest in Sudan's domestic finances in accordance with Islamic rules.

Finance Minister Abdul Rahim Hamdi said that external dealings will remain as usual under the international financial system.

Hamdi was quoted by the Sudan News Agency as saying that the new system is based on the "Islamic financial system, which does not encourage the use of interest in its dealings."

This move will abolish interest on loans made by the government to public corporations and employees. Instead of dealing in interest, financiers will now share profits or losses with their customers, as stipulated by Islam.

"If it is not possible to implement any of the Islamic systems of profit sharing, then the loans would be made free of interest," Hamdi said.

It was not clear if banks would continue to pay interest to depositors or if they would also be asked to adopt the profit sharing system.

U.S. companies said doing 'business as usual' in M.E.

WASHINGTON (R) — Outside of Iraq and Kuwait, U.S. firms seem to be doing business as usual in the Middle East despite the tensions there, Americans familiar with the region said Tuesday.

One said there had been some banking problems in the Gulf, but they had now stabilised.

J.R. Abinader, President of the National U.S.-Arab Chamber of Commerce, said there were problems in exchanging some Middle East currencies in London, but the issue of liquidity was more psychological than real.

He told a news conference "as far as they are concerned they may have liquidity problems in the physical presence of cash, but in terms of reserves, in terms of collateral, the situation has stabilised."

A U.S. government official and several businessmen said normal business was being conducted in the Gulf, but Abinader disputed their assessments.

"Business as usual is not their feeling," he said.

Don Demarino, deputy assistant secretary of commerce for Africa, the Near East and Asia, said he was concerned about the liquidity problem but the banks

Lending to Third World falls sharply

BASEL, Switzerland (AP) — Lending by commercial banks of Western industrial countries to Third World nations declined in the first quarter at an unprecedented pace.

In a survey released Wednesday, the Basel-based Bank for International Settlements (BIS) said the claims on these countries contracted by \$23 billion to \$700.9 billion, by far the largest quarterly decrease ever recorded.

At the same time, the BIS said, Third World deposits with Western commercial banks continued to increase by \$11 billion to \$585.2 billion. New deposits by China, \$5.1 billion, accounted for almost half of the total while new borrowing by China increased by \$1 billion.

The decline in outstanding claims occurred mainly in Latin

America. The survey said the decrease totalled \$18.6 billion, more than in all of 1989. The sharpest contraction, by \$14 billion, was recorded for Mexico, a result of the March agreement with its creditors.

The statistics showed that the widely anticipated shift of lending resources to the emerging East European democracies did not materialise. The Western banks' exposure to these countries shrank fractionally by \$100 million to \$97.8 billion.

Interbank lending in the developed area continued at a markedly slower pace. This "reporting area" includes the Group of Ten industrialised countries with Switzerland plus Luxembourg, Austria, Denmark, Finland, Ireland, Norway, Spain, Bahamas, Bahrain, Cayman Islands, Hong Kong, Netherlands Antilles, Singapore, and by the branches of U.S. banks in Panama.

Total cross-border claims totalled \$48.7 billion, down from \$176.4 billion in the previous quarter. The interbank market between European countries made an exception, increasing from \$38.5 billion to \$73.7 billion.

Total net international financing rose \$105 billion in the first quarter to \$3,627 billion, a slowdown from the \$139 billion net expansion in the fourth quarter.

This slowdown stemmed from a decline in growth in the interbank market and a contraction in volume of new syndicated credit facilities because of fewer mergers, the BIS said.

Japanese banks in the first

ILO finds inflation rising in many states

GENEVA (R) — Inflation is rising in two out of every three countries surveyed by the International Labour Organisation (ILO) despite a decade of efforts to control it.

The ILO, a United Nations agency, has said that countries with steadily rising inflation in the first few months of 1990 included Sri Lanka with 22.6 per cent compared with 15.1 per cent last December, Hungary 26.8 per cent (18.1 per cent), Sweden 10.1 per cent (6.6 per cent), Chile 24.8 per cent (21.4 per cent) and Britain 9.4 per cent (7.7 per cent).

An analysis of consumer price indices of 99 countries for 1989 showed that inflation rates in 67 of them were higher than in the previous year, while 27 recorded lower rates.

Argentina topped the list with a 1989 hyperinflation rate estimated at 4,924 per cent, compared with 387.7 per cent in 1988. Peru followed with 2,775 per cent (1,722 per cent), while Yugoslavia recorded 2,599 per cent (243.5 per cent) and Brazil 1,973 per cent (980 per cent).

Nine nations — Tanzania, Mexico, Syria, Gambia, India, Norway, Panama, Malta and Malawi — reduced inflation in 1989 for the second consecutive year.

Gold price fails to sparkle over crisis in Gulf

LONDON (R) — It's a sign of the times that gold, traditional friend of investors when the going gets tough, has responded so feebly to the Gulf crisis.

A decade ago, it surged to record levels which still stand when Soviet troops went into Afghanistan.

The U.S. embassy hostage crisis in Tehran and rising oil prices also helped propel gold to an all-time high of \$850 an ounce at the beginning of 1980.

But, since Iraq invaded Kuwait, the metal has put on only about \$26 to around \$400 an ounce at mid-afternoon Wednesday. Trading has been volatile and at one point Tuesday it briefly touched \$416.

"There has been some disappointment in gold's performance," said Euan Worthington, head of the mining department at London Brokers Warburgs. "But it has done better than stock markets in the past few weeks."

Nevertheless, the bullion market has been acutely sensitive to the Gulf crisis, albeit so far in a fairly staid way, dipping as more peaceful sounds come out of

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

Food prices soar in UAE

ABU DHABI (R) — Panic buying sparked by Iraq's invasion of Kuwait has doubled the price of rice and sugar and sent the cost of other necessities soaring in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), merchants have said. Merchants said people in the Gulf country were stockpiling basic foodstuffs and other necessities despite government assurances there would be no shortages. They said the cost of a kilogramme of rice and sugar had doubled, to 3.3 dirhams (90 cents) and 2.2 dirhams (60 cents). Prices of other consumer goods have also risen sharply. The ministry of economy and commerce said earlier this week the UAE had enough food to meet demand for six months. Traders said people were still hoarding, afraid imports may suffer if Western warships succeed in blockading Iraqi trade. Ministry sources said officials fanned out to the markets to stop hoarding and price manipulation and punish violators.

Iraq, Kuwait owe S. Koreans about \$1b

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — South Korean construction companies operating in Iraq and Kuwait are owed \$992 million in overdue payments, officials have said. The construction ministry said Iraq owed \$927 million and Kuwait owed \$65 million. Hyundai Engineering and Construction Co. and several other Korean contractors are currently working on nine projects worth \$1.4 billion. Construction Minister Kwon Yong-Gack has told a national assembly committee the ministry told Korean contractors to refuse new contracts in Iraq and Kuwait and complete ongoing projects quickly in view of high business risks and dangers for Korean workers. Kwon said there were about 900 Korean workers in the two countries. Hyundai reportedly has decided to evacuate its Korean workers from Kuwait and Iraq as soon as the situation permits.

UAE warns moneychangers

ABU DHABI (R) — The central bank of the United Arab Emirates has warned local moneychangers not to manipulate the exchange rates of Gulf currencies. It said currency dealers or exchange shops that do not accept the currencies of Saudi Arabia, Oman, Bahrain and Qatar, would be shut. "You are advised to continue to accept and trade in the currencies at normal exchange rates," it said in a circular. The warning followed complaints that some moneychangers raised currency rates after Iraq's invasion of Kuwait. Fears rocked the local financial community, sending the dirham as high as four to one U.S. cash dollar from 3.68.

Iran, Turkey to increase transport links

ANKARA (R) — Turkey and Iran have signed a draft agreement here to increase their air links and road transport across their common border, transport officials said. Under the protocol flights between Istanbul and Tehran will increase from four to six a week and a new air route will open between Istanbul and Tabriz. The officials said road transport capacity would more than double to 900,000 tonnes by the end of this year from 418,000 tonnes between January and July, and compared with 35,000 tonnes in the first of 1989.

Aeroflot to start flights to Nepal soon

KATHMANDU (R) — The Soviet airline Aeroflot will start a weekly flight from Moscow to Kathmandu via Dubai Aug. 25, airline officials have announced. They said it was hoped the flight would attract low budget travellers from Europe to the Himalayan kingdom, where tourism is the biggest hard currency earner. Aeroflot will be only the third airline to operate between Europe and Kathmandu. Royal Nepal airlines has a twice weekly flight from London via Frankfurt and Dubai, and Lufthansa flies once a week from Frankfurt via Karachi.

Bangladesh restricts sale of gasoline

DHAKA (AP) — The government has announced that gas stations will remain closed every Friday, the weekly holiday, to restrict consumption of gasoline. A statement issued by the government said the move was approved at a cabinet meeting, where it was decided to cut down consumption of petroleum because of the crisis in the Gulf. Bangladesh imports two million tons of crude oil every year to meet its demand for petroleum. Most of the imports are from the Gulf. Crude oil prices rose worldwide after Iraq attacked and annexed Kuwait last week. Prices are expected to rise further because of a United Nations embargo prohibiting trade with Iraq.

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For more information call tel. 677029 from 5 to 11 p.m.

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Location: Um Essommaq, near Pizza Hut

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AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Wednesday, August 15, 1990 Central Bank official rates

	Buy	Sell	French franc	125.3	126.1
U.S. dollar	656.0	660.0	Japanese yen (for 100)	444.0	446.7
Pound Sterling	1248.4	1255.9	Dutch guilder	373.6	375.8
Deutschemark	420.6	423.1	Swedish crown	114.3	115.0
Swiss franc	504.6	507.6	Italian lira (for 100)	57.4	57.7
			Belgian franc (for 10)	203.4	204.6

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at mid-session on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

One Sterling	1.9015/25	U.S. dollar	1.1430/35
One U.S. dollar	1.5390/95	Canadian dollar	1.5390/95
	1.7563/75	Deutschemark	1.7563/75
	1.3030/40	Dutch guilders	1.3030/40
	32.05/15	Swiss francs	32.05/15
	5.2330/80	Belgian francs	5.2330/80
	1145/1146	French francs	1145/1146
	147.72/82	Italian lire	147.72/82
	5.7425/75	Japanese yen	5.7425/75
	6.0520/70	Swedish crowns	6.0520/70
	5.9510/60	Norwegian crowns	5.9510/60
One ounce of gold	401.73/403.25	Danish crowns	401.73/403.25
		U.S. dollars	

Jet fuel prices soar

NEW YORK (R) — As a growing number of U.S. jet fighters fly to the Middle East, the government is being forced to battle U.S. airlines and the Japanese for available jet fuel supplies, trade and industry sources say.

Demand for jet fuel has soared due to the sharp expansion of U.S. military operations, coupled with nervous airline and Japanese stockpiling. This has led to a 25 per cent jump in jet fuel prices to about 75 cents a gallon (3.8 litre).

"I don't think there's any question. No one wants to be caught short of jet fuel," said Ed Tolle, president of United Aviation Fuels Corp., wholly owned by UAL Corp. "And I think there has been a fair amount of forward buying by the airlines."

Malaysia raises oil output

KUALA LUMPUR (AP) — The government-owned National Petroleum Corporation (Petronas) has increased its oil crude production by 10,000 barrels a day, Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad said Wednesday. Wednesday's cabinet meeting decided that half of the daily additional volume would be for Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) member countries.

APARTMENT FOR RENT

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Located at a quiet area in Jabal Luweibdeh.

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HANI ODEH HATTAR & BIRGITTA (GITAN) HEMMINGSSON

are honoured to invite you to attend the wedding ceremony at Fuheis Latin Church at 6.00 p.m. today (Thursday), 16th August, 1990. P.O. Box 9336, Amman

Cinema **RAINBOW** Tel: 625155

Nabla Obeld — Salah Gabeel
In
THE DANCER AND THE POLITICIAN
(Arabic)

Performances: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30 p.m.

Cinema **CONCORD** Tel: 677420

Dured Lahham
Madeline Tabar
In
KAFROUN
3:30, 6:30, 8:45, 10:45
ONCE BITTEN
5:15 only

Cinema **PHILADELPHIA** Tel: 634144

Nabla Obeld — Farouq Al Fishawi — Farid Shawql
In
THE CHALLENGE
(Arabic)

Performances: 3:45, 6:15, 8:30 and 10:30 p.m.

Cinema **NIJOUN** Tel: 675571

Nabla Obeld — Farouq Al Fishawi — Farid Shawql
In
THE CHALLENGE
(Arabic)

Performances: 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 8:45 and 10:45 p.m.
Friday & Sunday extra show at 11:00 a.m.

Cinema **PLAZA** Tel: 699238

Amr Diab
In
Al Afark (THE DEVILS)
(Arabic)

Performances: 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30

2 bomb blasts kill 11 on Indian Independence Day

NEW DELHI (Agencies) — Suspected Sikh militants punctured a heavy security blanket thrown over India's Independence Day celebrations Wednesday to explode two bombs that killed 11 people.

But Prime Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh, speaking under the shadow of three separatist uprisings, said defiantly he would not yield to secessionist violence.

"The time has come to decide who is with India and who is not," he said in an Independence Day speech from the ramparts of the historic Red Fort in Old Delhi hours after a bomb killed five people.

It went off near a temple in north west Delhi just before midnight as several thousand people were making their devotions on the birthday of Lord Krishna, one of the major gods in the Hindu pantheon.

Police said five people were killed and 23 wounded, four of them seriously.

Shortly after Singh declared "there will be no compromise with those who challenge India's unity," another bomb went off, this time in Punjab.

Police said six people were killed, including two women and a girl, when a bomb exploded on a bus.

They said Sikh militants fighting for a separate homeland in Punjab they call Khalistan (land of the pure) were suspected of planting both bombs.

More than 3,000 people have been killed this year in secessionist campaigns in three border states, Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab and Assam.

"It is a tragedy that the forces of secessionism have raised their ugly heads in these states," Singh said.

Singh, whose minority government took power nine months ago, said he wanted to redress injustices that led to the uprisings.

"But we will subdue the terrorists with force of arms," he said in a 45-minute speech.

Tens of thousands of security men were on duty in the three states in anticipation of trouble as India entered its 44th year of independence from Britain.

In Srinagar, summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir, India's only Muslim-majority state, the authorities allowed a dawn to dusk break in the curfew that has been in force for much of the past eight months.

Residents shunned the relaxation and called their own curfew, staying at home to ignore subdued Independence Day celebrations involving about 500 officials in a 35,000-capacity stadium.

Singh appealed for popular support for the fight against militants, comparing the struggle to that of Vietnam during years of warfare and the long siege of Leningrad by German forces during World War II.

"Today, the country faces a second battle for independence," he said, adding that violence threatened the country's democratic system.

Singh also appealed for an end to sometimes violent protests against his controversial decision to lift the proportion of government jobs reserved for low caste, outcaste and tribal people from about 22 per cent to more than 40 per cent.

"Those who have got nothing so far have to be given something, or the tears of the poor can turn into swords of fire which can bring down the palaces of gold," he said.

New missile tested

Heating up a simmering border dispute, Singh Wednesday indicated he was willing to die at the Pakistani frontier and announced that India successfully test-fired a new missile.

"I am ready to go to the border myself. It is better to die on the border than to see from New Delhi the violations of our frontier," Singh said.

On Monday, Pakistan said its armed forces repulsed an Indian attack a day earlier along the ceasefire line in the disputed state of Kashmir. India denied any major clash took place.

Singh said India test-fired what he called a medium-range surface-to-air missile called Akash, which means sky in the ancient Sanskrit language. He did not say when it was fired.

Defence experts said it is capable of intercepting and destroying high-and low-flying aircraft. United News of India said the missile has a range of about 24 kilometres.

It was fired from the test range at Chandipur in Orissa state, about 1,200 kilometres southeast of New Delhi.

India, which has the atomic bomb, has test-fired four other missiles. In May 1989, its scientists fired a surface-to-surface ballistic missile with a range of 2,400 kilometres.

American senators want free elections in Pakistan

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — A dozen senators have asked President George Bush to condition future U.S. aid to Pakistan on the holding of free, open elections within the next 90 days.

Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's government, which has been plagued by charges of corruption, was dissolved by the country's president. The move on Aug. 6 ended the 20-month rule of the first woman ever to lead the government of a Muslim nation.

New elections have been scheduled for Oct. 24, and Bhutto has vowed to seek to return to office. She charged that her dismissal, provided for under the country's constitution, was improperly engineered by the military.

Pakistan is receiving \$582 million in U.S. aid this year, the bulk of it military and security assistance. A State Department official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the United States assumes that elections will be held as planned and be free and open.

"We assume that the commitments made by the government will come about, and that international observers will be allowed" for the elections, the official said.

The senators, led by Sen. Edward Kennedy, said Bhutto's dismissal was "an extraordinarily high-handed intervention against a democratically elected government."

Taken with the army's seizure of the state-owned television station and telephone system and a declaration of a state of emergency, the developments "believe claims of a democratic, civilian transfer of power," the group wrote.

The group said free elections, open for full participation by Bhutto and others and free from intimidation, are essential to future good relations with the United States.

"United States aid to Pakistan should be conditioned on a clear commitment by the leaders of that nation to respect the principles of democracy," the senators wrote.

Others signing the letter included Sens. Nancy Kassebaum, Mark Hatfield, Claiborne Pell, Paul Simon, John Kerry, Paul Sarbanes, Bill Bradley, Dennis DeConcini, Tom Harkin, Brock Adams and Alan Cranston.

Meanwhile Pakistan's caretaker prime minister, Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi, vowed Tuesday that elections promised for October would not be delayed by probes into corruption charges against Bhutto's sacked government.

Many Pakistanis are cynical of promises by Jatoi and President Ghulam Ishaq Khan to hold elections on Oct. 24.

But Jatoi, in an Independence Day speech on television justifying his takeover, said: "I want to make it clear that elections will not be delayed by accountability."

After Ishaq Khan dismissed Bhutto's government last week, Jatoi accused it of being the most corrupt in Pakistan's 43-year history and said nobody suspected of abuses would escape.

"When we took control of government offices we found burned records," he said Tuesday. "Despite that a lot of proofs of corruption are available."

At an Independence Day reception in Rawalpindi he told reporters special tribunals were almost ready to start work after corruption allegations had been sifted.

But he said Benazir Bhutto was free to go to London.

East German CDU suspends top official in Stasi scandal

EAST BERLIN (R) — East Germany's governing Christian Democrats suspended their party manager Wednesday after reports he had been an informer for the former Communist security police for at least 15 years.

Martin Kirehner, general secretary in the Christian Democratic Union (CDU) led by Prime Minister Lothar de Maiziere, was on holiday and could not be reached for comment.

Deputy CDU Chairman Horst Korbella said in a statement that Kirehner was being relieved of party duties pending "clarification of the accusations against him."

Earlier Wednesday, the West German weekly magazine Stern said Kirehner was one of the most important informers for the Stasi security police before the Stasi regime was toppled by a pro-democracy uprising late last year.

Stern quoted three former Stasi agents as saying Kirehner, previously a prominent Protestant Church official in the southwestern Thuringia region, was a long-time paid informer for the dreaded Security Ministry.

The East German church harboured human rights activists who spearheaded last year's popular revolution.

The East German CDU was a Communist satellite party for 40 years but after the 1989 uprising it wooed out leading Stasi collaborators in favour of democratic reformers and wound up winning East Germany's first free elections in March.

"The CDU... acknowledges the accusations against Mr. Kirehner with great concern. He is suspended from his office as general secretary with immediate effect pending clarification of the accusations against him," Korbella said.

He said Kirehner was on a camping holiday abroad and could not be located to answer the accusations.

24 rebels, 9 troops die in Sri Lankan clashes

COLOMBO (AP) — Naval boats have destroyed four dinghies ferrying Tamil Tiger rebels, killing 24 guerrillas, and the rebels Wednesday fatally shot nine soldiers, military officials said.

The government, meanwhile, denied reports that between 75 to 85 Tamil civilians were killed by unidentified attackers in eastern Sri Lanka Monday.

"Nothing like that happened," said Brigadier Upali Senewiratne, the top military officer in eastern Batticaloa district. "This area is under my command and I should know."

The independent Sun newspaper after wave of professional and ethnic groups found themselves targets of Stalin's persecution — farmers, engineers, priests, scientists, even Stalin's allies.

Solzhenitsyn drew the anger of Moscow by publishing books such as the Gulag Archipelago and First Circle which documented life in the camps.

At its recent congress, however, the Communist Party rejected proposals for a formal declaration of guilt and responsibility for crimes committed since the 1917 revolution. Delegates argued that today's Communists could not be held responsible for the past.

Where official accounts in the 1960s and 1970s of the Stalin period spoke of "mistakes" and "errors", Gorbachev has fiercely denounced the dictator and allowed the excavation of mass graves of his victims throughout the country.

But Gorbachev, who joined the party in 1952, a year before Stalin's death, has stopped short of a direct formal apology in the name of the party.

Radicals also criticise him for failing to raise the question of millions summarily executed by the Cheka secret police or jailed during the early years of the revolution while Bolshevik leader Vladimir Lenin was still alive.

Gorbachev's latest decree, however, could help thousands of people still isolated from their families after leaving the country. Under Leonid Brezhnev, they were tarred as traitors and mercenaries by the Soviet press.

The parliamentary journal Information Bulletin of the Soviet Parliament formally announced Wednesday that citizenship had been restored to Alexander Zinoviev, writer of satirical novels such as Yawning Heights, which lambasted totalitarian thinking in the Soviet Union.

Parliament also returned citizenship to academic Zhores Medvedev, who is now living in London.

Both decisions had already been reported in the press.

Police thwart S. Korean dissidents' trip to border

SEOUL (R) — Riot police fought pitched battles Wednesday with nearly 10,000 supporters of a Pyongyang-sponsored border rally, marking Korean Independence Day with teargas and fire-bombs.

Police deployed at least 10 armoured cars at Yonsei University in western Seoul to subdue thousands of students and to block 400 dissidents in buses and vans from driving north to the rally in the border village of Panmunjom.

So effective was the police cordon on roads northward that fewer than a dozen students reached Imjin-Gak, the northernmost point open to civilian traffic on the road to North Korea.

Police said about 100 people were arrested in the Seoul area. They reported no injuries but a student spokesman said at least 40 students were hurt.

Witnesses at Yonsei University said at least a dozen policemen were set ablaze by petrol bombs hurled by the students who surged from the campus to attack police with iron bars. The flames were quickly extinguished by other officers.

The dissidents eventually abandoned plans to drive to Panmunjom, a militarily controlled destination denied to them in any case.

But hundreds of students fought hit-and-run battles with police throughout the capital all day, witnesses said.

Despite their inability to reach the border, the dissidents claimed at least a moral victory and said they would now turn their energies to political issues.

"The unification movement is no longer a movement supported only by students and youth but a goal for most sectors of society," Kim Kye-Sang, a spokesman for the Chonminyon dissident coalition, told reporters.

The clashes punctuated the 45th anniversary of Korea's liberation from Japanese colonial rule and marked a week proclaimed last month by South Korean President Roh Tae-Woo as one of unrestricted cross-border travel at Panmunjom.

But mutual mistrust has kept the 255-kilometre heavily fortified border as tightly closed as it has been since the end of the 1950-53 Korean War.

99 killed in S. African black violence

JOHANNESBURG (R) — The death toll in fighting between rival black groups in townships east of Johannesburg has risen to 99, police said Wednesday.

Police Cpt. Eugene Opperman said at least 99 blacks had been killed in clashes which began Sunday and intensified Tuesday and Wednesday.

The fighting has developed into the biggest single outbreak of mass township violence in recent years, the South African Press Association reported.

About 90 people were treated for injuries at a local hospital, said state-run South African Broadcasting Corp. radio. Hospital superintendent Norman Kermes said most of the injuries were caused by pangas (machete-like weapons) and blunt instruments.

Opperman said a policeman had sustained shrapnel wounds after a hand grenade was hurled at police by an unidentified man. He said police had been fired upon on several occasions. A man was wounded when police returned his fire.

The Press Association reported that police and troops were battling to keep apart the warring factions.

Police say fighting is between Xhosa and Zulus. But township residents, some of those involved in the fighting and press reports claim the clashes are between supporters of the conservative Zulu-based Inkatha organisation and the African National Congress.

Crossroads squatter camp near Kaithehng township was in flames Wednesday, and charred bodies were being removed from gutted shacks by mid-morning.

Police moved from shack to shack searching for the dead and injured.

The violence between residents of different black workers' hostels began in Thokoza township Sunday and spread Tuesday night to neighbouring townships of Kaithehng and Vosloorus.

Television crews on the scene Wednesday morning said the fighting was apparently between a pre-dominantly Xhosa-speaking group and Zulus. Some of the Xhosa-speaking men claimed that they were fighting Inkatha.

An armed Xhosa speaking man with "blood all over his shirt" told a CBS staffer that his group had just killed "eight Inkatha" and that his group had only suffered two losses.

According to a television crew member, police fired several rounds of tear gas in an attempt to disperse the groups. One crew member said he saw "at least three" policemen firing shotguns.

He added that after firing several rounds of tear gas at one of the groups, police fired tear gas directly at a crowd of onlookers who scattered in all directions.

Burmese dissident dies 'chained to hospital bed'

BANGKOK, Thailand (AP) — A Burmese dissident died while chained to his hospital bed and a doctor who helped rebellious students apparently was poisoned, a U.S. human rights group announced Wednesday.

Asia Watch's report on the Burmese government since it lost May 27 elections also identified five people who were reported to have been executed. It said a businessman, a taxi driver, two university students and another young man were each executed in June in the Karen state community of Pa-An, near the Thai border.

Many Burmese refugees, evicted by the Thai army in recent months have been detained by Burmese authorities or forced into military porter duty, the report said.

"Even after the landslide victory in the May 1990 general election of the National League for Democracy, the military government led by Gen. Saw Maung has maintained its hold on power and has continued to commit gross human rights violations," the report said.

"Thousands of political prisoners are believed to remain in custody and at least two dissidents, Min Thein and Kyan Moe Thant, have died since May either in custody or in suspicious circumstances shortly after release," it said.

Some have been detained without charge by the Directorate of Defence Services Intelligence, the report said.

Security Council endorses Liechtenstein as member

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — The U.N. Security Council has unanimously endorsed Liechtenstein's application to become the 160th member of the United Nations.

The principality of Liechtenstein has a population of less than 30,000 and is only 161 square kilometres in size. It is a wealthy state with major banks and a per capita income of about \$15,000 yearly.

The U.N. charter requires that a state may be admitted to U.N. membership with the recommendation of the Security Council and a two-thirds vote of the 159-nation General Assembly.

The General Assembly is expected to unanimously approve Liechtenstein's membership when it convenes in September.

Various states on the 15-member Council praised Liechtenstein as a progressive, peace-loving state.

Last spring, Namibia became the 160th member of the world body, but North and South Yemen merged, leaving the net membership at 159 before Liechtenstein's application.

China, the U.N.'s most populous member with more than 1,000 million inhabitants, said it had friendly relations with Liechtenstein and enjoyed growing political, economic and cultural ties.

"We are convinced that Sino-Liechtenstein relations will continue to expand in future," the Chinese representative said.

Kaifu vows Japan will never repeat war mistakes

TOKYO (R) — Japan's prime minister, in a ceremony marking the end of World War II 45 years ago, said Wednesday his country had renounced militarism and would never again wage destructive war.

"We will never repeat the catastrophes of war and each of us has been given the important duty of helping establish lasting peace," Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu said solemnly at the annual war memorial service at Tokyo's sprawling martial arts hall.

Kaifu's remark is the latest in a recent series by Japanese leaders trying to appease neighbouring Asian countries where the memory of Japan's brutal military policies still lingers.

"The lessons learned from the past war are deeply engraved in our memory," Kaifu said. He added Japan "will strive to establish world peace and to integrate with the world community."

Kaifu and Emperor Akihito both addressed some 7,000 elderly veterans and relatives of World War II victims from a flower-

bedecked altar against the background of a large rising sun flag.

"Again I feel deep sorrow for the many victims and the families of those who lost their lives in the past war," Akihito said. "I pray for the further development of our nation and for world peace."

Prior to the memorial service, 13 of Japan's 21 cabinet ministers paid visits to the Yasukuni Shrine, Japan's main monument to its war dead and a symbol of Japanese militarism for China, South Korea and other countries.

A total of 18 cabinet members were expected to visit during the day, well over last year's total of 14 who paid their respects to the World War II Class-A criminals and some 2.6 million war dead enshrined there as spirits.

Kaifu, who has cultivated an image as a pacifist during his one year as premier, said he would not visit Yasukuni this year in respect for Japan's Asian neighbours.

China and other countries strongly condemned an Aug. 15, 1985, visit to Yasukuni by then

Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone, and all succeeding premiers have avoided paying calls there.

Some war veterans at the memorial service said Japan still had a debt to repay to East and South East Asia, which Japanese troops took over prior to and during the last war in a push to build an Asian empire.

"We created many difficulties for those Asian countries and we have yet to settle the issue," said Ritschi Yamazaki, 64, from the southern island Kyushu.

"The truth about what Japanese troops did in Korea, China and other places is just coming out now," said Terashima, 77, from western Japan. "We've been covering it up for so long."

Socialist Party leader Takako Doi, attending a separate memorial service in Tokyo, condemned Japan for what she called its massacre of Asians.

"During the 15 years Japan fought in Asia it lost three million lives. But, at the same time, its invasion of Asia caused the

deaths of at least 20 million people," Doi said.

Last May Kaifu was forced to confront the issue of Japan's war responsibilities when South Korean President Roh Tae-Woo said that as a condition for his visiting Tokyo he wanted a formal apology for Japan's cruel colonial rule over the Korean peninsula from 1910-45.

In Jakarta last month, Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama had to assure South East Asian leaders meeting there that Japan would never again take up arms and that it regretted the damage it had caused.

The leading daily Asahi Shimbun, in its editorial Wednesday, said Japanese "tend to forget the fact that their military forces killed humans and disrupted lives in Asia."

It said that while Kaifu's apology to Roh last May was a step forward, "people in Japan's former colonies remain strongly dissatisfied with the passive posture Japan takes to atone for what it did in the past."

Column 8

No measurement needed for Miss Italy contestants

ROME (AP) — The winner of this year's Miss Italy pageant will have to cut a "bella figura" but she won't have to reveal her bust, waist and hip measurements, pageant organisers said Tuesday. Instead the major emphasis in this year's pageant will be on such inner qualities as intelligence, culture, class and the way the contestants carry themselves — those hard to measure qualities that make up the Italian idea of a bella figura.

Organizer Enzo Miragliani said the change was suggested by last year's judge, Italian TV personality Maurizio Costanzo, who will also head this year's jury that will consist of former contestants. Miragliani also said there were more than 30,000 applicants for the pageant that culminates with a national telecast on Sept. 1. However, he said that number included many 14- and 15-year-old girls who are too young for the pageant. A contestant must have reached age 16 by the end of May. The 60 finalists will be chosen during an Aug. 24-26 preliminary competition with the finals scheduled for Aug. 28-Sept. 1.

Robbers make off with \$333,000 from Greek bank

CORFU, Greece (AP) — Seven armed robbers stormed a bank on this popular tourist island Tuesday, fired in the air, disarmed its guard, and stole over 50 million drachmas (\$333,000) before disappearing. Police said they believed that the hooded men may have been foreigners as they were careful not to speak during the robbery. Coast guard vessels were cruising off the western island's coast, which is across the Adriatic Sea from Italy, an officer said.

Airport and harbour officials were also on the lookout for the robbers, he said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Iraqi circus performer joins the army

EDINBURGH, Scotland (AP) — An Iraqi circus performer whose specialty is pulling out car engines with his bare hands left his French troupe to join the Iraqi army, the circus director said.

Zanouk Al Habib, 23, returned home because he was worried about his family and wished to fight if Iraq went to war, said Pietro Bidon, director of the Archaios Circus. Bidon said Zanouk left on Aug. 7. He did not know if the Iraqi national had been reunited with his mother and three sisters, who live near Baghdad. Zanouk is 2.06 metres and weighs 170 kilograms.

Bidon said he hired Zanouk after watching him destroy the interior of a bar in Barcelona, Spain. The director said Zanouk worked as a merchant seaman before joining the circus, based in southern France.

Schwarzenegger enjoys fatherhood

NEW YORK (AP) — Arnold Schwarzenegger says he never realised how much joy fatherhood would bring. "The kid is fantastic, just fantastic. ... I sometimes even change diapers, but let's put it this way: I don't stand in line for it," the bodybuilder-turned movie star said in the September issue of Redbook. His daughter, Katherine Eunice Schwarzenegger, was born in December. His wife, Maria Shriver, announced in April that she would not return to her job as weekend anchor of the NBC news show Sunday Today. The star of Total Recall and Twins said he and Shriver, a niece of President John F. Kennedy, both will devote time to the child. "I grew up in a family where it was very important to be together, to play and study with my mother and father. We always had a strong family unit. It was the same for my wife," he said. "We cherish that kind of upbringing and will make sure our kid — or kids, since there will obviously be more than just one — is raised the same way."

Burglar leaves all but kitchen sink

CLAREMONT, California (AP) — A burglar who stole the kitchen sink and a double-burned sink valued at \$200 was taken from its moorings on the wall in the weekend burglary at the home of George Brooks. Brooks said the thief left him with "a sinking feeling."

Handwritten signature or mark.